The labyrinth of magic

MAGI マギ シンドバッドの冒険

7

原作 大高忍 漫画 大寺義史

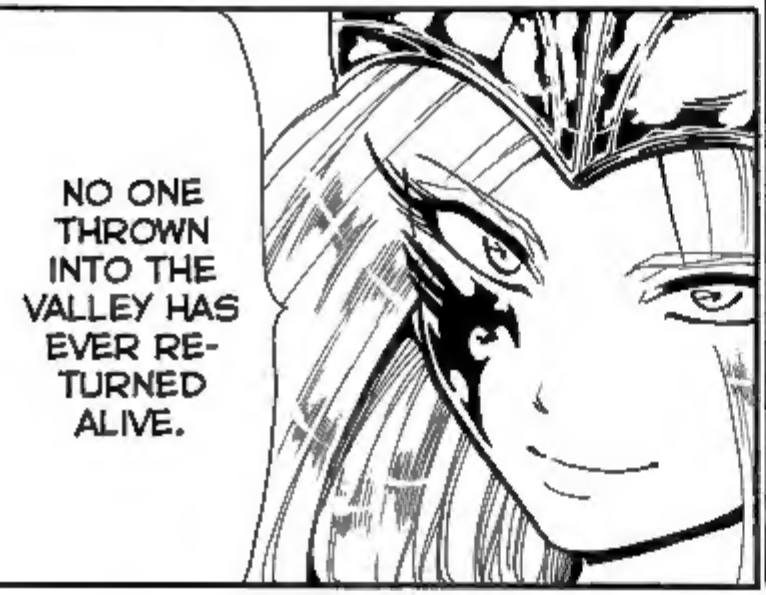
URA SUNDAY COMICS

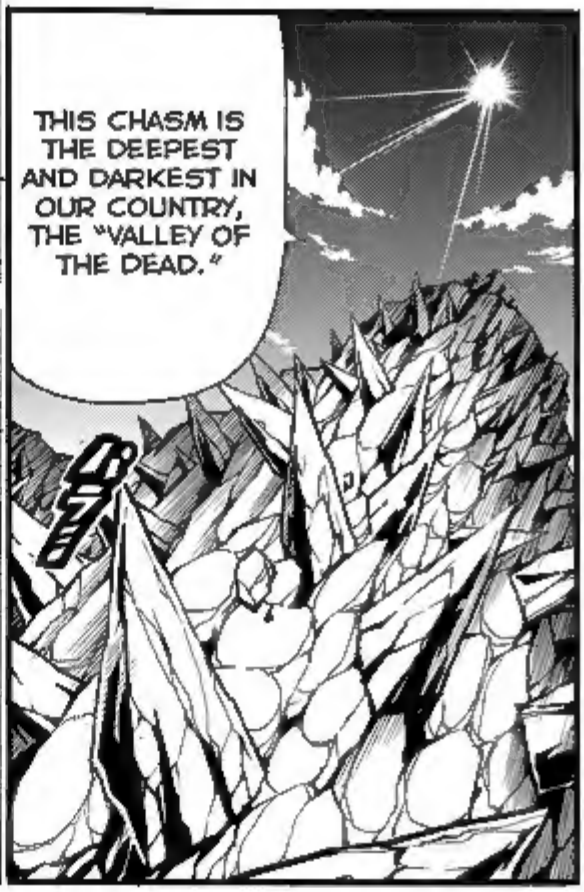
YOU HAVE INSULTED THE ARTEMYRA KINGDOM AND ITS QUEEN. YOU WILL BE PUNISHED.
YOU MISUNDERSTAND! WE DIDN'T INTEND TO ...
I ADMIRE YOUR BOLDNESS, SINBAD.
BUT I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I? THE ONE WHO DECIDES IS ME...
EVERYTHING HAPPENS ACCORDING TO MY WILL.

I'LL TEACH YOU SOMETHING... THE FEELING OF FEAR THAT COMES FROM DEFYING A WOMAN IN THIS COUNTRY...
TAKE THEM TO THAT PLACE!
YES, MA'AM!

WHAT THE ...?!
THIS CHASM IS...

SO IT'S OUR CUSTOM TO THROW CRIMINALS DOWN THERE.
WE HAVE NO SPACE TO ACCOMMODATE EXCESS PEOPLE,


NO ONE THROWN INTO THE VALLEY HAS EVER RETURNED ALIVE.


THIS CHASM IS THE DEEPEST AND DARKEST IN OUR COUNTRY, THE "VALLEY OF THE DEAD."

I KNOW THAT I CAN'T SURVIVE FALLING TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS CHASM...
BUT I HAVE NO INTENTION OF DYING HERE... IF I COULD JUST DO A DJINN EQUIP SOMEWHERE THAT THEY COULDN'T SEE ME...

IT'S GOOD THAT THEY STARVE AND ROT AWAY DOWN THERE.

GUH!

I DON'T WANNA DIE LIKE THIS...
N... NO WAY ...

!!!

I SHOULD BE ABLE TO AVOID THE WORST...

THEN MAYBE YOU'RE NOT JUST ANOTHER BOOR.

YOU'RE A KING CANDIDATE WITH THE POWER OF A DJINN, TOO. IF YOU'RE A METAL VESSEL USER...

OH ...

A METAL VESSEL USER ...?!!

...HOW-EVER...

COULD... THIS WOMAN BE THE SAME AS ME...

THE FACT THAT YOU RUINED MY MOOD DOESN'T CHANGE.

HEY! TAKE HIS METAL VESSEL! TAKE EVERYTHING OFF OF THEM.

SOMEONE ELSE COULD STILL BE HIDING SOMETHING. SEARCH THEM THOROUGHLY.

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WAH! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

AH... AH... THAT'S ...

AAA-AAA-AH!

ワー ワー

YOU LOOK UNEXPECTEDLY SLENDER IN THOSE CLOTHES.

IF YOU HAPPEN TO MAKE IT BACK OUT OF THAT CHASM, WANT TO DO SOMETHING NICE WITH ME?

Ah!

Pant, pant... th... that's...

OH...?

...HUH

...HU-UUUU-UH?!

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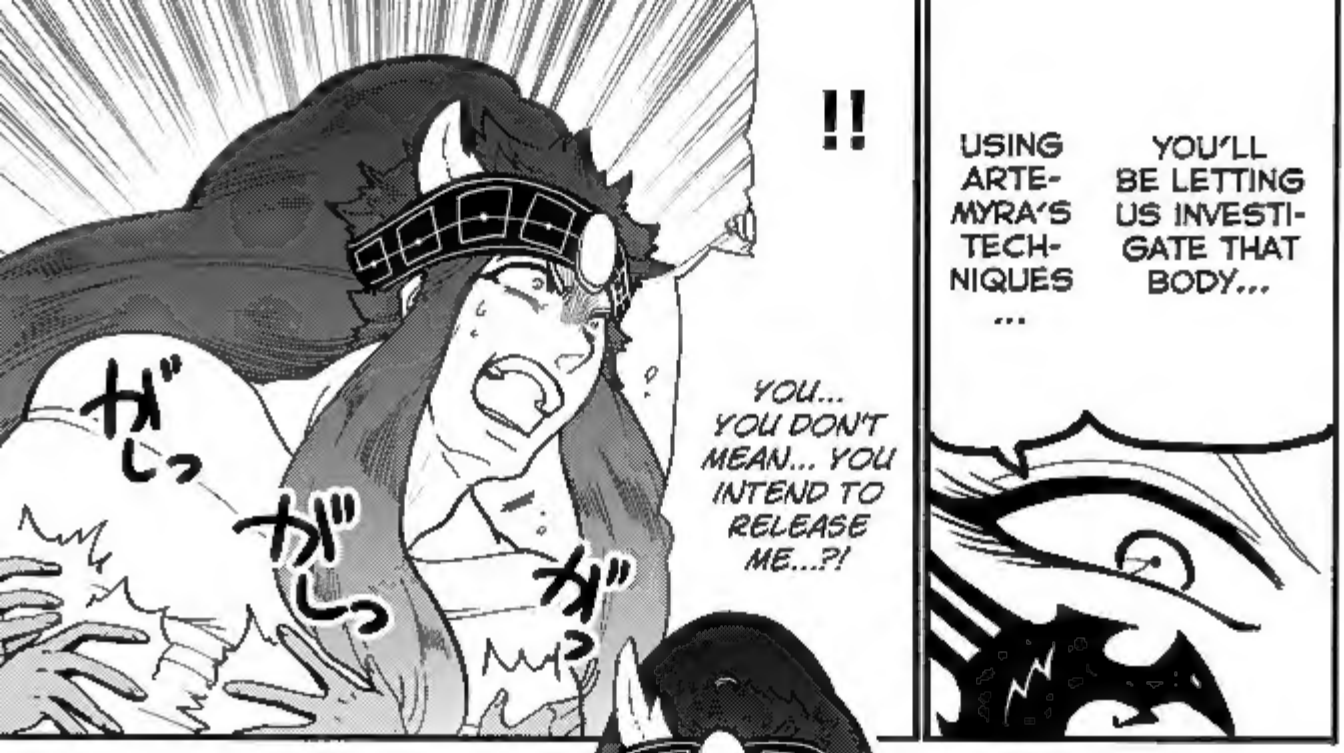
OH WELL! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE ANYWAY. EHEHE!

AAAA AAAA AAH!

Bye Bye!

HMPH
EVEN IF HE WAS A METAL VESSEL USER, THIS IS THE END FOR HIM.
.....
...SIN, EVERYONE...

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE FROM THAT SMALL TRIBE IN THE FAR NORTH, THE IMUCHAKK.
YOUR STATURE EXCEEDS THAT OF ANY NORMAL PERSON ...WE KEPT YOU HERE EXPRESSLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING YOU OUR RESEARCH SUBJECT.
I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THIS WILL KILL YOU...
I'LL DEFINITELY SAVE YOU, SO UNTIL THEN... YOU HAVE TO STAY ALIVE.
HEY, YOU ...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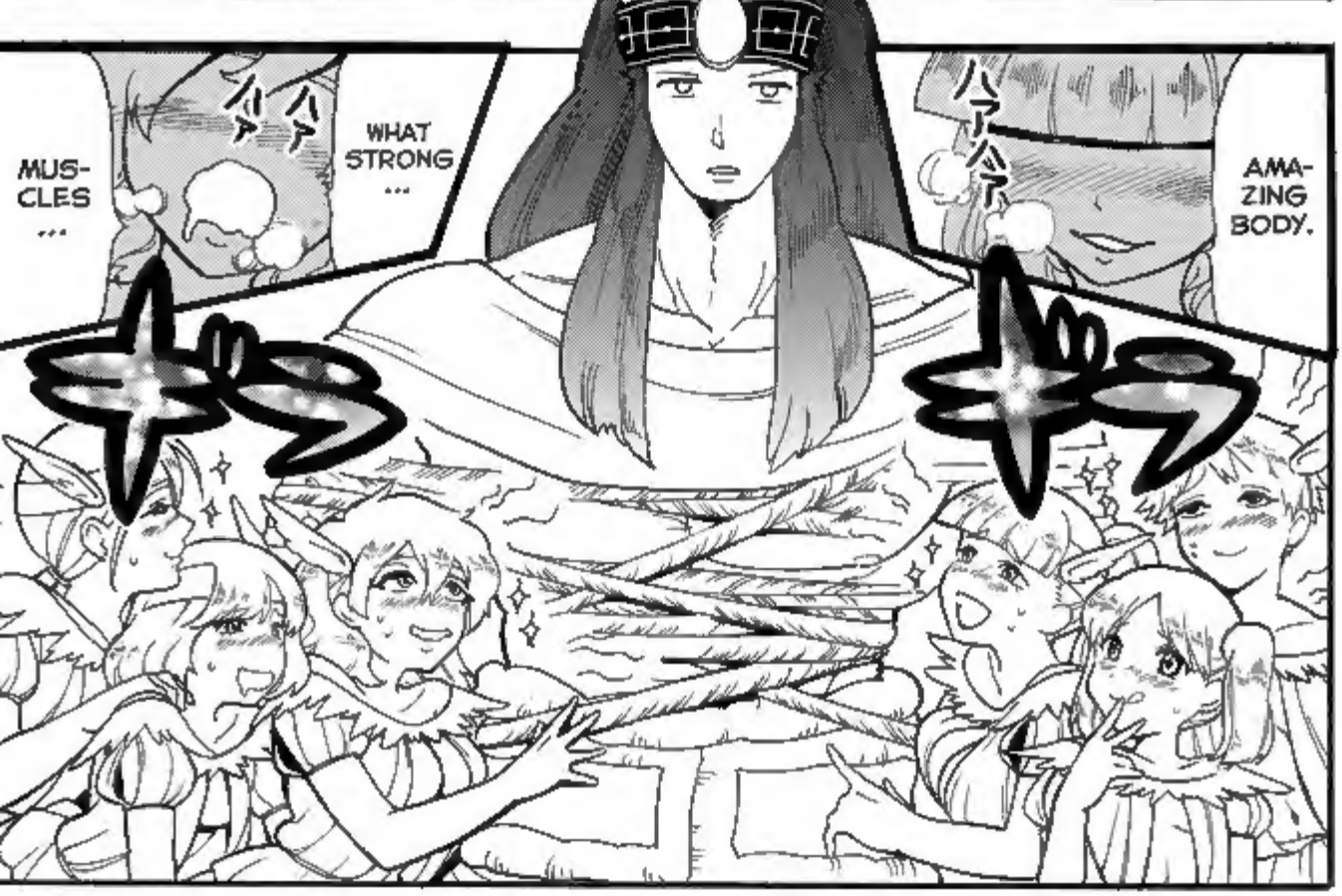
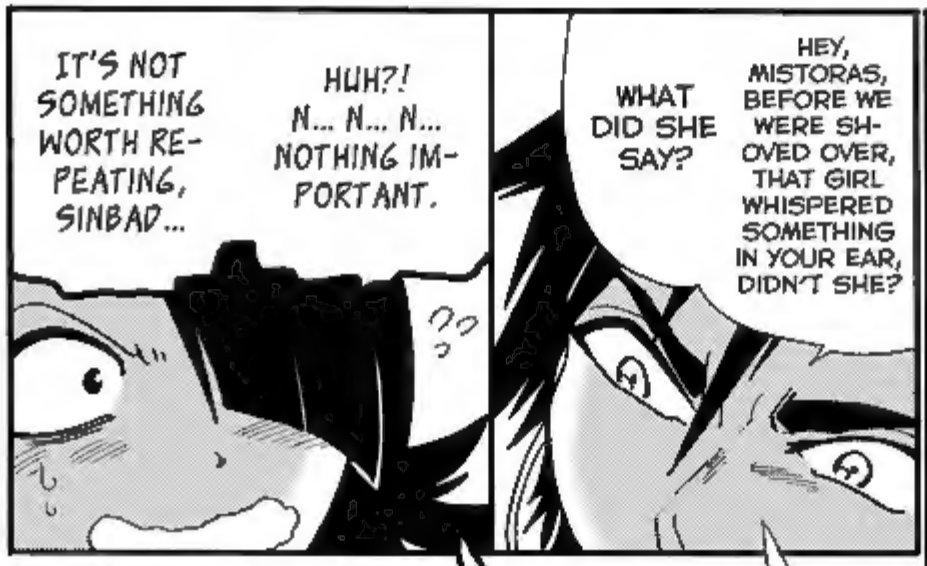
!!
YOU... YOU DON'T MEAN... YOU INTEND TO RELEASE ME...?!
USING ARTE-MYRA'S TECH-NIQUES ...
YOU'LL BE LETTING US INVESTI-GATE THAT BODY...


MUS-CLES ...
ハァハァ
WHAT STRONG ...
ハァハァ
AMA-ZING BODY.

AAA-AAA-H!!!
WE'LL LET YOU HAVE A TASTE OF SOMETHING EVEN MORE TERRIFYING THAN DE-ATH.
PREPARE YOURSELF.

...HEY, EVERYONE OKAY?

THAT'S FOR SURE. I HOPE HINAHOHO'S OKAY UP THERE, TOO...
MY BODY HURTS EVERYWHERE, BUT JUST BEING ALIVE AFTER FALLING FROM THAT HEIGHT IS A MIRACLE...
YEAH... IT SEEMS LIKE WE WERE SAVED THANKS TO THE MOSS DOWN HERE.


IT'S NOT SOMETHING WORTH REPEATING, SINBAD...
HUH?! N... N... N... NOTHING IMPORTANT.
WHAT DID SHE SAY?
HEY, MISTORAS, BEFORE WE WERE SHOVED OVER, THAT GIRL WHISPERED SOMETHING IN YOUR EAR, DIDN'T SHE?

IF YOU HADN'T DONE SOMETHING SO UNCALLED FOR, SIN, WE WOULDN'T BE...
OH WELL. IF WE GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE, IT'LL MAKE A GREAT STORY, WON'T IT?
IT WILL! IF WE MAKE IT BACK ALIVE, SOMETHING GOOD MIGHT ...!

FOR NOW, SET ASIDE YOUR IDIOTIC BICKERING...
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE SHOULD THINK OF A WAY TO GET OUT OF HERE QUICKLY! THE FASTER THE BETTER!
NO, YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING! I CAN TELL!

WANNA COVER THAT UP.

YOU MIGHT

ドーン!!

THAT THING THEY CAN'T SHOW IN THE MAGAZINE!

WHAT?

MAGA-ZINE?

THE TRICK IS TO KEEP IT THERE WITH THE STEM.
AH, I CAN'T GET MY LEAF TO STAY PUT
I WOULDN'T HAVE MINDED STAYING LIKE THAT.
THIS IS OKAY, RIGHT, JA'FAR?
It's perfect.
YUP.
gave up on scolding them
IT'D BE GREAT IF WE FOUND A WAY OUT!
FOR NOW, LET'S EXPLORE THE AREA!
オォ ー ー!!
A few hours later
しーん…

THERE ARE NO TRACES OF ANIMALS COMING AND GOING, AND IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S AN ESCAPE HATCH ANYWHERE ...

Gya!

Wah!

slide

THE CLIFF SIDES ARE COVERED IN MOSS, SO CLIMBING THEM IS IMPOSSIBLE ...

AS EXPECTED OF THE VALLEY OF THE DEAD. NO ONE HAS EVER RETURNED FROM IT ALIVE... SO IT OBVIOUSLY CAN'T BE CONQUERED THAT EASILY.

Dead End

I ALSO THOUGHT THE BOTTOM OF THE VALLEY WAS REALLY WIDE, BUT WE'RE SURROUNDED BY ROCKS ON ALL S DES AND CAN'T GO VERY FAR

SIGH.....

stomach growling

OUR ONLY SALVATION IS THAT WE HAVE ACCESS TO A SPRING... WITHOUT WATER, WE WOULDN'T HAVE LASTED MORE THAN A FEW DAYS.

がばっ

I HAVE SOME EMERGENCY RATIONS.

UM... IF THAT'S THE CASE ..

more stomach growling

SINCE WE FIRST ARRIVED IN THIS COUNTRY...

...THAT'S RIGHT. WE HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTH NG

ACTUALLY, SASAN KNIGHTS ARE TAUGHT TO KEEP EMERGENCY RATIONS IN OUR TURBANS FOR JUST SUCH AN OCCASION.

ごくり。

ドーン

Yay! Delicious!

I... IS THAT REALLY OKAY? ...BUT, I ALSO FEEL LIKE I'M ABOUT TO DIE OF HUNGER, SO... I'LL TAKE YOUR WORD FOR IT.

Thank you

NO, THIS WAS YOURS, MISTORAS. YOU HAVE TO EAT ONE OF THEM.

THE TWO OF YOU CAN HAVE THEM. THERE ARE ONLY TWO ANYWAY.

SINCE SASAN IS SUCH A LONELY ENVIRONMENT, WE STARTED THIS CUSTOM BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IN AN EMERGENCY WHILE MARCHING OR IF CAPTURED AS A PRISONER.

TAKING THE FOOD OF SOMEONE LIKE THAT... IS SOMETHING I CAN'T DO.

YOU'RE THE YOUNGEST AND A GROWING BOY.

THE OTHER ONE IS YOURS.

JA'FAR ...

あっ

SO, I'LL LEAVE THAT FOOD ...
I'VE ALWAYS HAD A SMALL APPETITE, AND WHILE I WAS AN ASSASSIN THERE WERE TIMES WHEN I'D GO DAYS AT A TIME WITHOUT EATING...
...THANK YOU VERY MUCH, BUT I'M FINE.
じー
SIN...
ピクピクピク
THEN, I'LL TAKE IT!
AH, REALLY?
WAIT A...! THAT MEANS YOU'RE TAKING JA'FAR'S FOOD THEN, AREN'T YOU?!
TAKING IT WOULD BE D.SGRACEFUL! HE JUST SAID HE'D G.VE IT TO ME, DIDN'T HE?!
THAT'S REALLY PATHETIC FOR A LEADER, SINBAD!
ぐわしっ
FINE... I HAVE WATER... WHAT THE HELL ARE EMERGENCY REACTIONS ANYWAY...
I'VE BEEN A FISHERMAN'S CHILD SINCE BIRTH. WATER IS MY FRIEND. IT WON'T BETRAY ME...
ズルズル
DESTINY HAS FORSAKEN ME...
Ate it in the end
DAMNIT ...

JA'FAR SAID THIS WAS A SPRING,
THAT'S RIGHT...
BUT IS THIS REALLY MADE UP OF WATER FROM UNDERGROUND?
Delicious
burbie
burbie
WHERE THE HELL... IS THE SOURCE...?
DESTINY HASN'T FORSAKEN ME!
HEHE... JUST AS EXPECTED OF ME.

INTO THE LAKE ?!!
YOU WANT US TO SWIM
FOR US TO ESCAPE!
THAT'S RIGHT. THAT IS THE ONLY WAY...

IF WE CAN REACH THE WATERWAY, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO FOLLOW IT TO SOMEWHERE ELSE!
IT HAS A CURRENT CREATED BY AN UNDERGROUND WATERWAY, AND I THINK THE WATER COMES UP FROM THERE TO CREATE THIS LAKE.
I DON'T THINK THAT THIS LAKE COMES FROM A SPRING.
DON'T WORRY! I DID SOMETHING LIKE THIS IN VALEFOR'S DUNGEON. I THINK THIS WILL BE THE SAME.
I'M SURE WE'LL BE FINE!
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS.
EVEN IF WE REACH THE WATERWAY, WE HAVE NO IDEA HOW LONG WE'D NEED TO SWIM. IN THE WORST CASE SCENARIO, WE'D DROWN.
THIS ISN'T A DUNGEON, AND THERE ISN'T NECESSARILY A PATH OUT OF HERE.
SIN... PLEASE WAIT.

I WILL! I'M STARVING! I'LL DIE!

IF I STAY HERE, I'LL STARVE. THE TWO OF YOU WHO ATE THOSE EMERGENCY RATIONS MIGHT NOT, BUT...

NO!

HE'S HOLDING A GRUDGE, HUH...

ダンッ

LET'S WAIT HERE UNTIL HINAHOHO COMES TO RESCUE US. IT'S OKAY. IF IT'S HIM, HE'LL DEFINITELY..

EXACTLY. IT'S NOT REALISTIC ...SINCE THAT'S HOW IT IS...

IF HINAHOHO, WHO EXCELS AT SWIMMING, WERE HERE, THEN MAYBE. BUT WITH JUST US? COULD WE REALLY DO IT?

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ペシッ

AS THE OLDEST, AND THE ONE WHO DIDN'T GET TO EAT ANYTHING... THERE'S NOTHING ELSE I CAN DO...

NOW IS MY ONLY CHANCE!

IF I LOSE MY STRENGTH AND CAN'T SWIM, IT'S ALL OVER ...

ブッブッブッブッブッ

I'M RELUCTANT, BUT LET'S TRUST YOUR INTUITION.

MOREOVER, YOU HAVE THE DEVIL'S LUCK TO GET YOU OUT OF TROUBLE...

EVEN IF WE WAIT ON HINAHOHO, THERE'S NO GUARANTEE HE'LL RESCUE US.

...FINE. LET'S GET IN THE LAKE.

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ブッブッブッブッブッブッ

...I DON'T HAVE ANY OBJECTIONS... BUT...
4
JA'FAR ...
じーー
BESIDES ...
YOU'RE OUR MASTER. IT'S OUR JOB TO TAKE YOUR WORD AS PART OF OUR FATE.
I
HAVE NEVER SWUM BEFORE, BUT...
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どぶっ
COOL, HUH?! WITH THIS, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO SWIM, RIGHT?!
ジャーン
I HAVE ...A SWIMMING AID.

IT'S FINE. . I'M SURE YOU CAN DO IT.
Yeah!
DON'T WORRY! I HAVE GREAT MOTOR SKILLS, SO I WON'T CAUSE YOU ANY TROUBLE!
I HOPE SO
I'VE NEVER EVEN BEEN IN THE RIVER BACK IN SASAN, SO I'VE ALWAYS REALLY WANTED TO SWIM!
MISTORAS THAT WILL ONLY GIVE YOU PEACE OF MIND
OK! WE'RE GOING TO ES-CAPE!

THE CURRENT IS STRONG... IT SEEMS LIKE IT REALLY IS CONNECTED TO ANOTHER PLACE
IF THIS IS THE DEPTH, I CAN SWIM IT! GREAT! THIS WILL SAVE US ALL!
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!?

H.. HELP... MISTO.. RAS WON'T .....LET GO...
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ぺぺ
ぷぷぷぷ
!!
ブリブリ

I CAN'T... BELIEVE... I HAD TO SWIM CARRYING... THEM BOTH ...
ハアハア...

NO... GOOD... THERE'S NO STRENGTH LEFT IN MY... BODY...

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シュ

ガク...ッ

I STILL... HAVEN'T ACCOMPLISHED ANYTHING...

BUT...

DID I... USE UP ALL MY POWER AND END UP DYING...?

WHAT... WHAT'S THAT SOUND...?

ガシャ!

ガシャ!

ガシャ!

shake

カッ

じっ

MORE...

ゲゲゲ

IF I HAD... MORE POWER...

うねうね
GYAAAA AAAAAA AAAH!!!
WAKE UP, YOU GUYS!
SNAKES ...THERE ARE SN-AKES!
HUH ?!
WHAT?
WAH! WHAT IS THIS?!
PLEASE LOOK. THIS NEST OF SNAKES ...
THEY'RE ALL POISONOUS, BUT THERE ARE A VARIETY OF SIZES AND SPEC ES. IT'S L KE A SEA OF SNAKES . .

JUST AS SINBAD SAID... WE FOLLOWED THE WATERWAY AND CAME OUT SOMEWHERE ELSE, BUT...

OTHER THAN THE SNAKES, THIS PLACE LOOKS PRETTY MUCH THE SAME AS THE OTHER... WHAT WILL WE DO NOW...

JA'FAR... MISTORAS... LIVE A GOOD LIFE FOR MY SAKE.

AAH... I REALLY WANTED TO CHOOSE THE PLACE I'D DIE ...SURROUNDED BY BEAUTIFUL WOMEN, WITH DELICIOUS FOOD, DELICIOUS ALCOHOL, AND DELICIOUS...

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

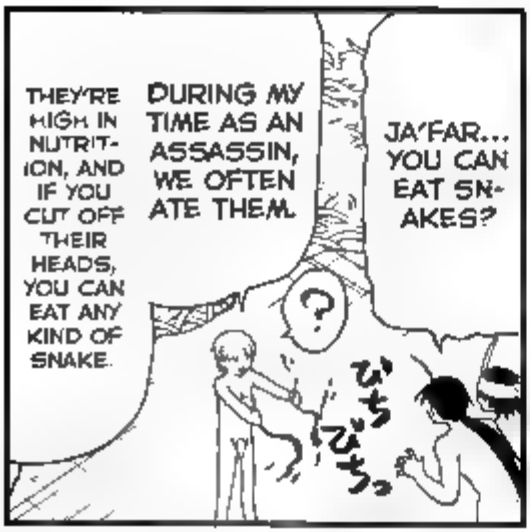
ぎゃぁぁぁ

THERE'S NO ESCAPE FROM THIS VALLEY . ?

. DOES THAT MEAN THAT NO MATTER HOW WE STRUGGLE

THIS IS THE TERROR OF [redacted] VALLEY OF THE DEAD . .

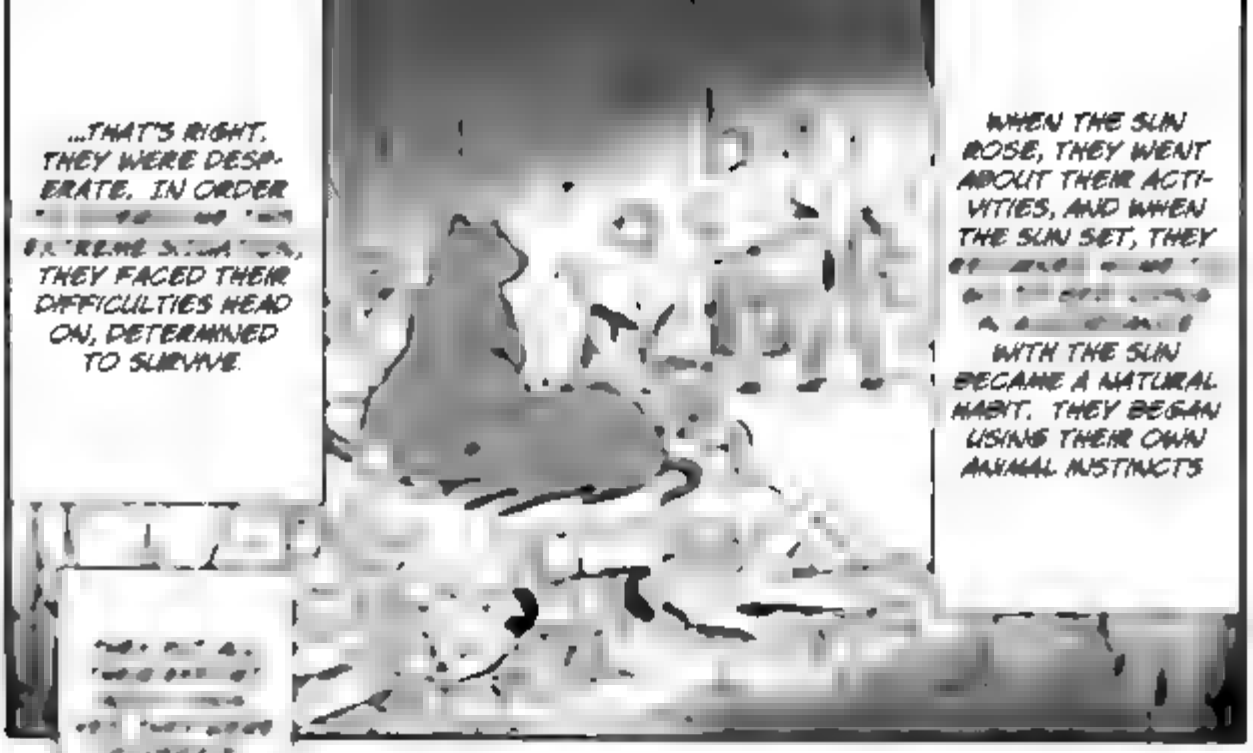
DESPITE THAT, YOU'RE ACTING LIKE THIS...YOU'RE JUST BEING NEGATIVE BECAUSE YOU'RE HUNGRY. THAT'S EASY TO FIX...
IF ANIMALS CAN COME AND GO, THEN THAT MEANS THAT THERE MUST BE A HOLE SOMEWHERE THAT LEADS OUT OF HERE.
HAVING THIS MANY SNAKES AROUND MEANS THAT THERE MUST BE SMALL ANIMALS FOR THEM TO EAT, AS WELL AS WATER.
IS THAT REALLY OK? OUR SITUATION HAS CHANGED FOR THE BETTER
GEEZ... IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO SAY THAT.
HUH?
ムンズ
ビク
HERE!
EAT THIS AND GET BACK YOUR ENERGY!
びちっ
びちびち


JA'FAR... YOU CAN EAT SNAKES?
DURING MY TIME AS AN ASSASSIN, WE OFTEN ATE THEM.
THEY'RE HIGH IN NUTRITION, AND IF YOU CUT OFF THEIR HEADS, YOU CAN EAT ANY KIND OF SNAKE.
?
ぴちぴちっ

ぴちぴちぴちっ

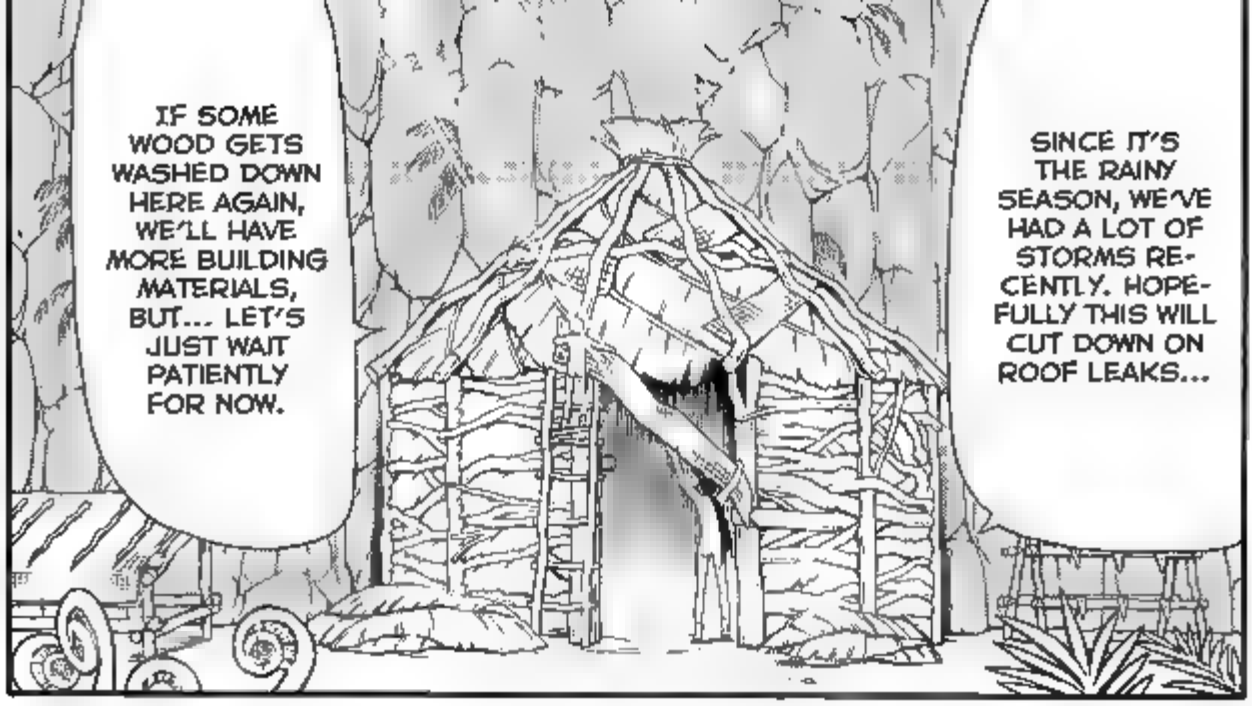
EAT UP. THERE ARE PLENTY, SO THERE'S NO HURRY.
THANKS FOR THE FOOD!
I'll get them ready in a flash

THEY ATE THE SNAKES, STARTED A FIRE, GATHERED VEGETATION, AND BUILT A SHELTER FROM THE WIND AND RAIN.
AFTER THAT, SINBAD AND THE OTHERS PUT FORTH ALL THEIR EFFORTS.



THEY ADAPTED TO THIS LIFE-STYLE

OKAY. THE SNAKES FOR THIS EVENING HAVE BEEN CLEANED, AND...
I'VE MADE SOME MATS BY WEAVING TREE BARK TOGETHER.
YES!
JA'FAR, ARE YOU FINISHED WITH THAT?


IF SOME WOOD GETS WASHED DOWN HERE AGAIN, WE'LL HAVE MORE BUILDING MATERIALS, BUT... LET'S JUST WAIT PATIENTLY FOR NOW.
SINCE IT'S THE RAINY SEASON, WE'VE HAD A LOT OF STORMS RECENTLY. HOPEFULLY THIS WILL CUT DOWN ON ROOF LEAKS...

OH!! SPEAK OF THE DEVIL... ISN'T THIS NATURE'S BLESSINGS?
THIS LARGE PIECE OF WOOD GOT WASHED UP IN THE RAIN EARLIER!!
HEY, EVERYONE, LOOK!

WE'RE HAVING SNAKE AGAIN, HUH. I'M STARTING TO GET TIRED OF THIS.
FIRST, LET'S EAT I'VE DONE THE PREPARATION.
ALL RIGHT WE'LL MAKE SOME REPAIRS IN THE AFTERNOON.

ホカ ホカ
HERE, MISTORAS. THIS IS YOURS.

GREAT JOB, SIN!

IS THIS ROCK SALT?!
HEHEHE.. JAFAR I THOUGHT THIS MIGHT HAPPEN.. HERE.
I GOT MY HANDS ON SOME GREAT STUFF

ビク
ビク

NOT IT!!!!

THAT'S...

WHY WE'RE HERE.....?

??

IN ORDER TO

IT'S STRANGE, ISN'T IT?! PLEASE RE-MEMBER WHY WE'RE HERE!!

WHAT ARE WE DOING GETTING SO ACCUSTOMED TO LIFE HERE?!!

WE WERE THROWN INTO THIS VALLEY BECAUSE WE ANGERED THE QUEEN!

THIS IS THE ARTEMYRA KINGDOM!

THAT'S NOT IT!!

バコーン

LIVE.

THAT'S NO REASON TO SPEND WEEKS DOWN HERE, IS IT?!!

AREN'T WE GOING TO RETURN ALIVE AND HAVE ANOTHER AUDIENCE WITH THE QUEEN?!

BUT OUR GOAL WAS TO HAVE DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS WITH ARTEMYRA!

I THINK WE ALL FORGOT ABOUT IT BECAUSE OUR LIVES WERE IN CONSTANT DANGER.

NOOOOOOOOO!!!

IT'S A MUCH BETTER ENVIRONMENT THAN WHEN I WAS WITH THE ORGANIZATION.

BUT THIS IS AN UNEXPECTEDLY GOOD PLACE TO LIVE.

THEN, YOU GUYS...!

YEAH, I REMEMBER NOW.

...NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THAT'S TRUE.

BUT...

IT WAS A DESPERATE LIFESTYLE THAT REQUIRED EVERYONE'S COOPERATION.

THE LAND WAS BARREN AND WE COULDN'T GROW MANY CROPS....

WHEN I WAS A KID, WE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TO EAT BECAUSE OF THE WAR.

...THAT'S NOT ALL. I'VE COME TO UNDERSTAND SOMETHING WHILE LIVING

EVERY DAY WE'VE SPENT IN THIS VALLEY HAS TAUGHT ME JUST HOW LUXURIOUS AND BLESSED THAT LIFE-STYLE WAS...
IN REM, WE HAD ALL WE COULD EAT... IT BECAME NATURAL TO SLEEP IN A WARM BED, AND POVERTY WAS NO LONGER A FACTOR...
AT SOME POINT, I FORGOT ALL THAT.
BEING THANKFUL FOR THE SUN AND NATURE'S BLESSINGS EVERY DAY, PAYING RESPECT TO THE ANIMALS THAT SUSTAIN OUR LIVES...
YES... THIS .. THIS HERE...
IS WHAT "LIVING" REALLY IS...

シュー…
シュー…
とぼとぼ…
I WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...
... I DON'T NEED THAT SORT OF UNDERSTANDING...
.....REALLY?
ぐー
ぐー
スピー
スピー
IT'S NO GOOD... THOSE TWO HAVE COMPLETELY ADAPTED...
MY PRECIOUS DREAMS OF LEAVING SASAN TO SEE THE WORLD WILL NEVER BE FULFILLED!
NO, IF I CAN'T GET OUT,
If you return, it's do something for
IF I GET OUT OF HERE, I CAN DO SOMETHING WITH THAT LADY...
AT THIS RATE, WE REALLY WILL LIVE THE REST OF OUR LIVES DOWN HERE IN THIS VALLEY. I CAN'T STAND THAT...

TH... THIS IS...!!
NO MATTER WHAT, I MUST ESCAPE THIS PLACE!!
ぷにょ
?
WHAT THE ..? IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE A SNAKE. .
ぷにょ?
ぷにょ

FRESH MEAT?!!

F.....

FOUND IT IN THIS PROCESSED STATE...

LAST NIGHT, WHILE I WAS EXPLORING THE VALLEY, I FOUND IT ON THE GROUND

NO!!

TODAY WE'LL HAVE A FRESH MEAT PARTY!

Yahoo!

!!

SO... IN OTHER-WORDS...

WH WHY IS SOMETHING LIKE THIS DOWN HERE?!

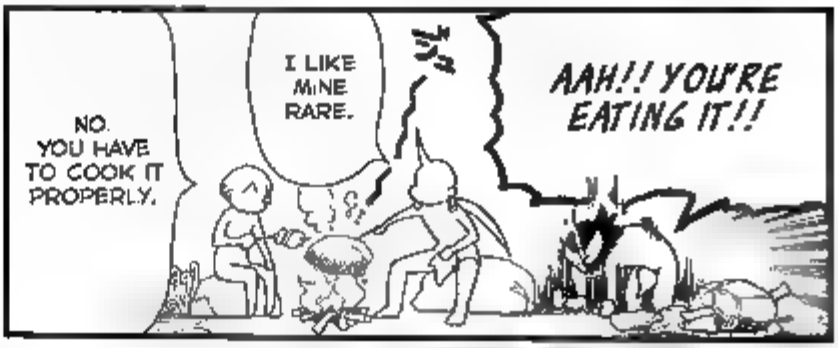
IT'S A LITTLE SPOILED IN PLACES, BUT IT'S A GREAT PIECE OF MEAT!

MISTORAS HOW DID YOU GET THIS?!

がばー!!!

PLEASE USE SOME COMMON SENSE. THIS IS OBVIOUSLY PROCESSED MEAT THAT WAS CUT INTO THIS SHAPE BY PEOPLE!!

IT'S STRANGE THAT SOMETHING LIKE THAT JUST FELL DOWN HERE, ISN'T IT?! IT CAN'T BE A COINCIDENCE. SOMEONE PURPOSELY LEFT IT HERE. THIS WILL BECOME A CLUE TO DISCOVERING AN ESCAPE PLAN!!



SO, TAKE US TO WHERE YOU FOUND THE MEAT!!
GOOD JOB! THIS IS DEFINITELY AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY. I'LL HELP YOU FIGURE OUT WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON HERE!
S.. SURE..
じーん…
THOSE TWO REALLY DON'T HAVE THE WILL TO LEAVE ANYMORE.....
HEY, MISTORAS
WHAT'S ALL THIS?! THERE WAS NOTH NG HERE DURING THE DAY... BUT NOW THAT IT'S NIGHT, ALL THIS MEAT HAS APPEARED?!
THIS IS WHERE I FOUND IT.

PLEASE DON'T GRAB ALL THE MEAT WHILE I'M TALKING!!

せっせっ

ひょこ ひょこ

WHO WOULD DO THIS AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE.

YEAH... ALL THIS IN ONE NIGHT.

HEY!

ちょっ ちょっ

.....!!?

WHAT'RE YOU DOING TO MY MEAT?!

THIS MIGHT BE A CLUE TO HELP US ESCAPE!!

ギャー ギャー

BUT WE SHOULD GATHER UP ALL THE MEAT FIRST. THIS MEAT WAS DELICIOUS.

... MISTORAS. I'M ALSO CURIOUS ABOUT THE ORIGINS OF THIS MEAT.

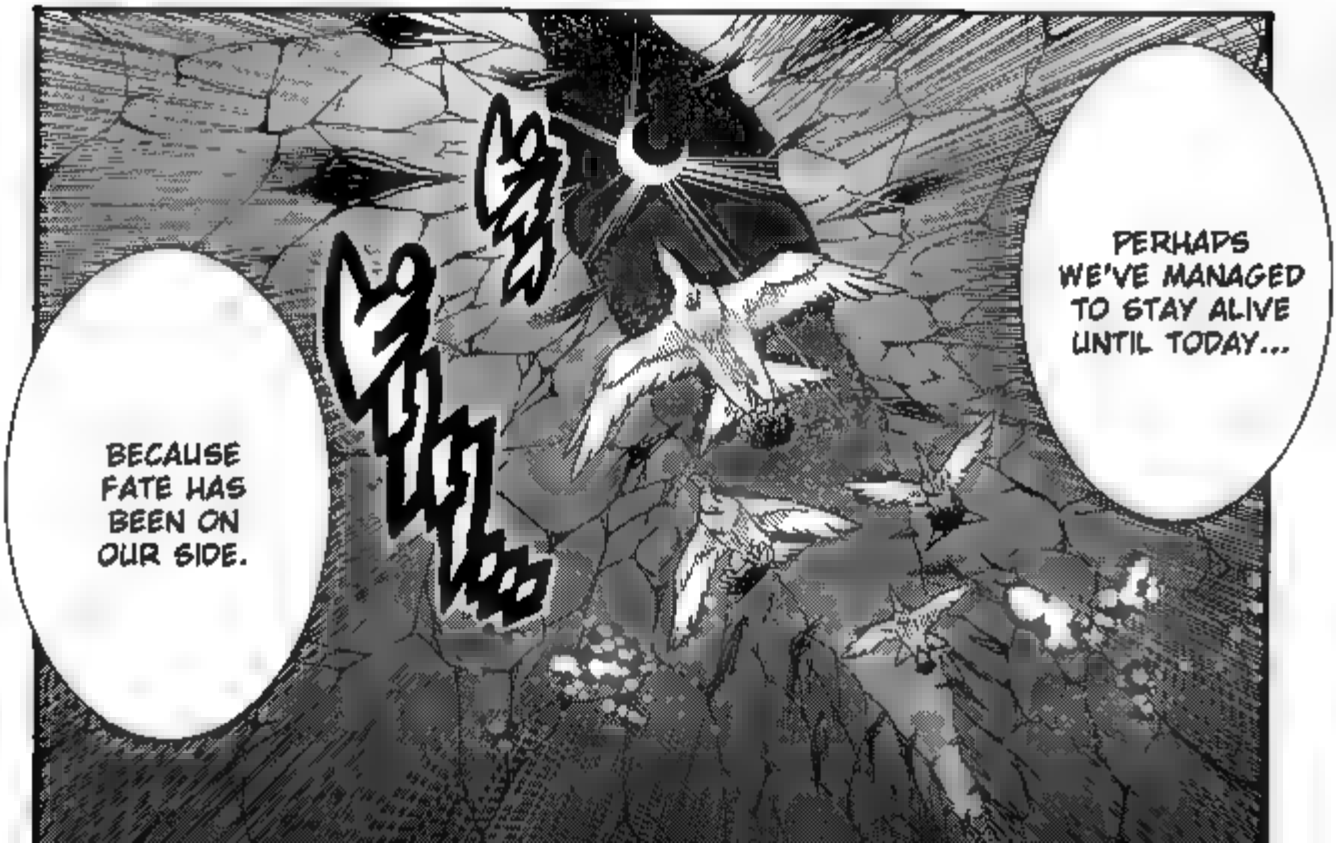
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! FIGURING OUT THE TRUTH SHOULD COME FIRST, SHOULDN'T IT?!

TH... THAT IS...
ONE OF AR-TEMY-RA'S BIRDS!!
HuH?!
WHY IS IT HERE
S.N!
THAT B.RD IS STEAL.NG OUR MEAT!!
!?
!!?
AND THESE ONES, TOO?!

THE MEAT . . . THE BIRDS TOOK ALL OF IT. .
ザラーン…

I GIVE UP
IT'S OKAY, MIS-TORAS.

BUT I THOUGHT IT COULD BE A CLUE TO GET US OUT OF HERE... AND NOW YOU'RE TELLING ME THIS IS JUST A FEEDING GROUND FOR THOSE BIRDS...
ペタン
NO WAY...


PERHAPS WE'VE MANAGED TO STAY ALIVE UNTIL TODAY...
BECAUSE FATE HAS BEEN ON OUR SIDE.

HMM? THAT'S STRANGE
IT'S NOT OUR FAULT IT'S THE GODS' FAULT
THAT'S RIGHT YOU COURT LADIES ARE SO OP-PRESSIVE
AH, BUT WE WE AL-READY WORKING REALLY HARD
CAN'T YOU WORK FASTER?!
HEY, YOU THE NUMBER OF GEMS YOU'VE BEEN COLLECTING HAVE DECREASED RECENTLY

THE BIRDS HAVEN'T BEEN BRINGING THE MEAT BACK LATELY.

WE CAN'T GATHER THE GEMS STUCK TO THE MEAT LIKE THIS.

I WONDER IF OUR MEAT ISN'T DELICIOUS ENOUGH EVEN THOUGH WE WENT THROUGH ALL THAT EFFORT TO PREPARE IT.

IF I DON'T GET PAID, THEN MY WIFE WILL BE ANGRY.

MINE, TOO. MINE, TOO.

HUH ?!!

MEN, I'M MORE THAN AWARE OF YOUR COMPLAINTS!

WE'LL TAKE COUNTER-MEASURES IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE DECREASE IN GEMS! YOU JUST KEEP DOING YOUR WORK!

Kya!

YOU'RE SO LADY-LIKE AND COOL. HOW WONDERFUL!

YOU CAN REALLY RELY ON WOMEN.

THEY'RE SO MUCH MORE COURAGEOUS THAN US MEN. HEHE!

ゴゴゴゴ…

JA'FAR, MISTORAS, WE'LL GATHER UP ALL THE MEAT AGAIN TODAY!

DON'T LEAVE A SINGLE PIECE BEHIND. GIVE IT YOUR ALL!

PICK UP EVERY PIECE BEFORE THE BIRDS COME TO GET IT!

……

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DON'T WORRY, MISTO-RAS.

I'LL SPEND MY WHOLE LIFE STUCK HERE.

I CAN'T RELY ON ANYONE

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わぁ…

SINBAD, YOU SAID THINGS LIKE, "IT'S ALRIGHT. FATE IS ON OUR SIDE,"

BUT IN THE END, YOU REALLY JUST WANTED TO EAT ALL THIS MEAT…

SO, LET'S BELIEVE IN HIM.

HE'S THE TYPE OF PERSON WHOSE ACTIONS CAN CHANGE FATE.

SIN HAS SOME KIND OF PLAN. EVEN IF WE THINK THIS IS MEANINGLESS,

TO ME, HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ANYTHING BUT SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO EAT MEAT ...
THIS ONE IS FRESH AND NOT ROTTED! IT'LL BE DELICIOUS!
OH! LOOK, YOU GUYS!
GOT IT, MISTORAS? YOUR IMAGINATION.
IT'S YOUR MAGINATION.
A GIANT PIECE OF MEAT!!!
IT... IT'S...

WAIT, MISTO-RAS!
BUT IT'S TOO BIG FOR US TO CARRY HOME, SO LET'S CUT IT UP INTO SMALLER PIECES...
I'VE... BEEN WAITING ALL THIS TIME FOR THIS PIECE OF MEAT TO COME... AND OF COURSE IT'S NOT JUST SO THAT WE CAN EAT IT.
HUH?
I... IT'S SO BIG... ONE PERSON COULDN'T EAT IT ALL.
IT MAKES ALL THE SMALL PIECES FROM BEFORE SEEM LIKE A LIE.
IT REALLY DOES ...
THIS IS OUR
DESTINED TRANSPORTATION.

THAT TA KE'S CARE OF ALL OF THE CHARAN'S, RIGHT? SO, COULD'T THE GEMS
THEY BROUGHT IT BACK THIS TIME.
WHAT'S THIS? THIS PIECE IS BIG, HUH
LET'S HURRY
I CAN'T WAIT TO GET TO WORK.
SEE, JUST LIKE I TOLD YOU. THE BIRDS DIDN'T BRING BACK THE MEAT BEFORE BECAUSE IT WAS TOO SMALL

My, my.
Oh, how dread-ful!
MY STRATEGY SUCCEEDED.
KYA-AAA! WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY ?!!!

THERE WERE THINGS STUCK TO THE MEAT, SO I THOUGHT IT MUST MEAN SOMETHING... NOW I GET IT.
THIS IS THE REASON BEHIND IT ALL.
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, JA'FAR?
NO ONE WOULD THINK THAT WE WERE TAKING THE MEAT THAT WAS THROWN DOWN TO COLLECT THE GEMS. IF THE BIRDS CAN'T BRING BACK THE MEAT, THEN THEY CAN'T COLLECT THE GEMS. I'M SURE THEY WERE THINKING ABOUT THAT.
THE VALLEY IS FULL OF SNAKES, SO PEOPLE DON'T GO DOWN THERE.
AND THE BIRDS BRING BACK THE MEAT THAT HAS THE GEMS STUCK TO IT. THEN IT'S THEIR JOB TO COLLECT ALL THE GEMS.
THEY THROW THE MEAT DOWN INTO THE VALLEY,
DROPPING LARGER PIECES OF MEAT COULD ONLY RAISE THE PROBABILITY THAT THE BIRDS WOULD BRING IT BACK.
WE USED THAT TO OUR ADVANTAGE.
ガシッ ガシッ
AND IT LET US EASILY ESCAPE FROM THE VALLEY.
FOR EXAMPLE, IF THEY DROPPED A PIECE OF MEAT BIG ENOUGH FOR A PERSON TO HOLD ON TO... THEN THAT PERSON COULD BE CARRIED UP WITH THE MEAT.
THAT'S RIGHT.
すっ

THE MEN OF ARTEMYRA, WHO WE NEVER SAW WITHIN THE CITY, ARE... TO THINK THAT THEY ARE BEING MADE TO WORK IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...

...HOWEVER

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AH HA HA. THAT'S NOT IT AT ALL.

BEING TREATED UNFAIRLY?

COULD IT BE THAT ALL OF YOU ARE BEING TREATED UNFAIRLY BY THE WOMEN...?

I DON'T KNOW HOW IT IS IN THE REST OF THE WORLD, BUT OUR LIVES HERE ARE FREE OF DISCOMFORT.

FOR GENERATIONS, WOMEN HAVE BEEN THE ONLY PEOPLE ABLE TO CONTROL ANIMALS, YOU KNOW, SO MOST OF THE HARD LABOR BECAME PART OF THEIR ROLE.

IN EXCHANGE, MEN TOOK ON HOUSEHOLD DUTIES AND PROTECT THE HOME, WHILE ALSO DOING THIS SORT OF SIDE JOB SOMETIMES.

WE'RE JUST ORDINARY HOUSEHUSBANDS.

WERE YOU THINKING WE WERE SLAVES OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

wrong

wrong

THEY REALLY DO.
WOMEN HAVE IT TOUGH, DON'T THEY? WORKING DAY AFTER DAY.
MINE IS SO BUSY RAISING CHILDREN, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR HER TO WORK.
MY WIFE HAS BEEN SO COLD LATELY, BUT I DON'T WANT A DIVORCE!
IF OUR WOMEN DIDN'T WORK SO HARD, WE'D ALL BE OUT IN THE COLD!

LET'S GO GREET THE QUEEN AND LET HER KNOW THAT WE'VE RETURNED ALIVE!
THAT'S RIGHT ...

...IT SEEMS A BIT STRANGE.
ARTEMYRA'S SOCIETAL ROLES FOR MEN AND WOMEN ARE THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE OF OURS.
BUT ...
YEAH, THEY REALLY DO.
EVERYONE SEEMS TO ENJOY IT.
Yes!
Hurry up and get back to work! We'll clean things up here

Artemyra
Royal Palace
THAT'S ALL OF TODAY'S GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS. GOOD NIGHT, QUEEN MIRA.
UH HUH.
HE HE... METAL VESSELS THAT THE SPIRITS DWELL IN ARE SUCH BEAUTIFUL THINGS.

...AN ORNAMENT?
NO... WHEN COMPARED TO YOUR BEAUTY, EVERYTHING IS OVERSHADOWED.
IT WILL LOOK NICE AS AN ORNAMENT FOR ME, EVEN THOUGH THAT'S ALL IT WILL BE.
IT'S A SHAME I CAN'T SEE A DEMONSTRATION OF THE POWER OF ANOTHER PERSON'S METAL VESSEL, BUT...
SIN... BAD?!
THE ONLY REASON I WOULD BE HERE...
WHY ARE YOU HERE?!

I HAVE RETURNED FROM THE VALLEY OF THE DEAD.
...IN ORDER TO SEE YOU.
JUST A...
THAT ...!
TO SEE YOU, THE PERSON WHO HAS MY METAL VESSELS.
THAT'S RIGHT. I WANTED TO SEE YOU.
カ
チリ

I'M GLAD YOUR MAJESTY IS JUST THE SORT OF PERSON I IMAGINED YOU TO BE.

MY SWORD WAS AT YOUR BEDSIDE.

SO, I FIGURED YOU'D KEEP MY METAL VESSELS SOMEWHERE THAT YOU COULD EASILY REACH..

YOU'RE SO CAUTIOUS THAT YOU HAD A DOLL GREET US IN YOUR PLACE.

COULD IT BE THAT I'VE DONE SOMETHING CRUDE TO A WOMAN OF SUCH AN EXALTED POSITION AS YOURSELF?

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OH... YOUR MAJESTY, IS SOMETHING WRONG?

...UNFORGIVABLE ...

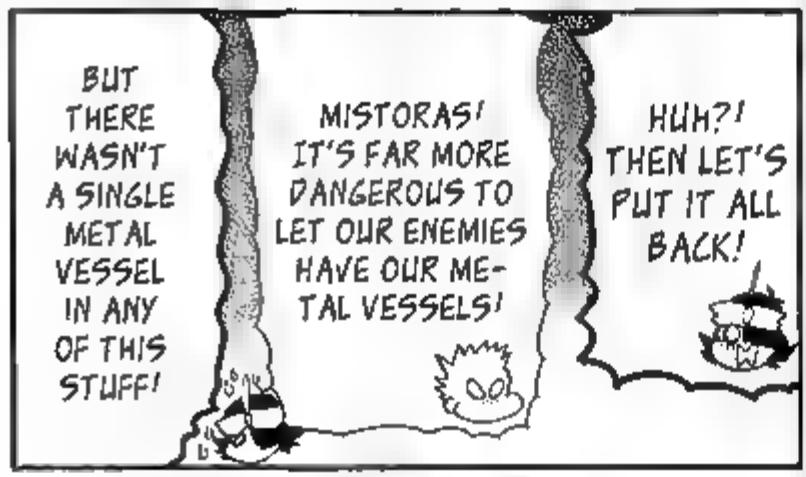
I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU, SINBAD.

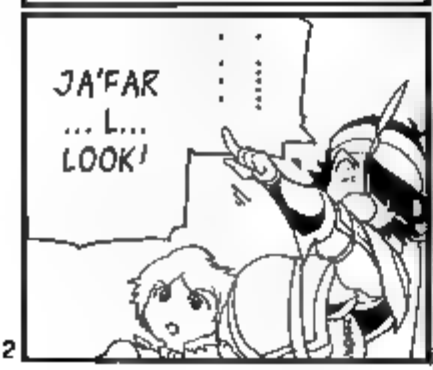
ゴゴゴ

I'LL MAKE YOU REGRET... THAT YOU EVER INSULTED ME, QUEEN MIRA DIANUS ARTEMINA.
NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF MAN YOU ARE, YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR ME!
"CERBERUS"
DWELL IN MY BODY, TURN ME INTO A GREAT MAGICIAN!
SPIRIT OF SEVERITY AND FASCINATION.

SPIRIT OF SEVERITY AND FASCINATION
"CERBERUS"
I'LL GIVE YOU A TASTE OF MY POWER.

IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR US TO SNEAK INTO THE ROYAL PALACE TO TAKE OUR THINGS BACK LIKE THIS?
JA'FAR
IT'S NOT OKAY. IF THEY FIND US, IT'LL BE A BIG PROBLEM.


BUT THERE WASN'T A SINGLE METAL VESSEL IN ANY OF THIS STUFF!
MISTORAS! IT'S FAR MORE DANGEROUS TO LET OUR ENEMIES HAVE OUR METAL VESSELS!
HUH?! THEN LET'S PUT IT ALL BACK!


JA'FAR ... L... LOOK!

WE HAVE TO MEET UP WITH HIM SOON... HMM?
YEAH... SINBAD WAS PROBABLY RIGHT. THE QUEEN MUST BE KEEPING THEM WITH HER...

ハアハア

Bararaq
TLN Lightning

Saiqa
SINBAD AND.. THE QUEEN ARE...
FIGHTING WITH THEIR DJINN EQUIPS?! WHY...
JUST LIKE BAAL!
AND SHE'S USING A LIGHTNING DJINN
スタッ
THEN I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO SHOW YOU...
YOUR ATTACKS WON'T WORK, YOU KNOW.
OUR LIGHTNING POWERS CANCEL EACH OTHER OUT, HUH.

TN Sword

SIN... THAT DJINN EQUIP IS ...!
!!
THE POWER OF
MY SECOND DJINN.
HAVING CONQUERED MULTIPLE DUNGEONS, I POSSESS DIFFERENT DJINNS...
WHICH ALLOWS ME TO CHANGE MY DJINN EQUIP
AND USE MY POWER IN A WAY THAT BEST SUITS THE SITUATION ...THAT IS THE POWER OF
SPIRIT OF DECEPTION AND CONFIDENCE
DWELL IN MY BODY,
MAKE ME INTO A GREAT MAGICIAN.
MULTIPLE DUNGEON CONQUEROR, "SINBAD."

"DJINN EQUIP"
"VALEFOR"

キィィィイン
ブオオオ!!
A DIFFERENT DJINN EQUIP? YOU THINK I'LL LET THAT SORT OF TRICK PASS?
ドオ
Garufor
Zairu
A DIRECT HIT!
TL'N Ice Beast Howl

...NO.
SHE'S COMPLETELY UNINJURED.
THE POWER OF A MULTIPLE DUNGEON CONQUEROR?
IS THIS WHAT YOU MEANT?
IN CONTRAST TO ITS APPEARANCE, IT'S QUITE A POWERFUL TECHNIQUE.
SO, YOU ATTACKED WITH ICE THIS TIME, HUH?

ONE HEAD IS LIGHT-NING.
ONE HEAD IS ICE.
"CERBE-RUS" IS A THREE-HEADED DJINN.
AND THE MAIN BODY, ME, CAN CONTROL FIRE...
WITH THE POWER OF ONLY TWO ELEMENTS, YOU CAN'T BEAT ME!
THERE'S NO NEED TO CHA-NGE MY EQUIP.
WITH POWER OVER THREE DIFFER-ENT ELE-MENTS, IT'S THE STRON-GEST DJINN!

JA'FAR, IF WE DON'T STOP THIS FIGHT, SINBAD WILL ...!
IF A DJINN EQUIP LIKE THAT EXISTS... THEN HE HAS NO CHANCE!
!!
...NO.
HE MUST HAVE CHANGED DJINN EQUIPS BECAUSE HE HAD AN IDEA. LET'S LEAVE IT TO SIN...
I'LL KNOCK YOU TO THE GROUND!

TLN Roaring flame sword of imprisonment

THIS IS THE END!
OH NO!
TLN: Imprisoning dance of the flame beast
Cerbero Jairu Ranquesa

YOUR DEATH WILL BE YOUR APOLOGY TO ME, SINBAD!
Hahaha!!
YOU'RE JUST LIKE OTHER MEN AFTER ALL.
HOW FOOLISH ...
ミュウウ...

YOU ...WHY ARE YOU OVER THERE ?!!!

YOUR MAJESTY

I'M NOT QUITE DEAD YET.

REAL ABILITY!

VALEFOR'S ...

...HE FINALLY USED IT...

FROM THAT POSITION... HOW DID HE...?!

VALEFOR'S TRUE POWER?
YES.
VALEFOR CAN MANIPULATE ICE AND SNOW, BUT THAT'S ONLY A SMALL PART OF HIS TRUE POWER.
THE TRUTH IS...
HMPH ...

HOW-EVER,
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE THIS ATTACK
COULD IT HAVE BEEN SOME KIND OF ILLUSION? ...INTERESTING.
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU PROTECTED YOURSELF FROM MY ATTACK,
I SHALL TURN YOU INTO ASHES!
FIRE, LIGHTNING, ICE ...
ULTIMATE DESTRUCTIVE MAGIC THAT COMBINES ALL THREE ELEMENTS.

EXTREME MAGIC

CERBERO KALB VOLQUESA

WH ...?

!!

YOUR MAJE-STY.

NO MATTER HOW HIGH IN THE SKY WE ARE, WITH YOUR KINGDOM BELOW US, YOU'RE BOUND TO DESTROY SOMETHING

THAT WON'T DO...

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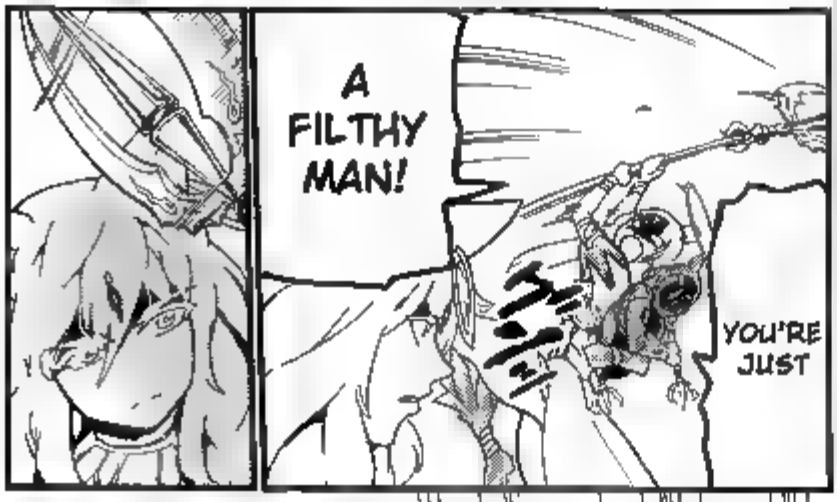
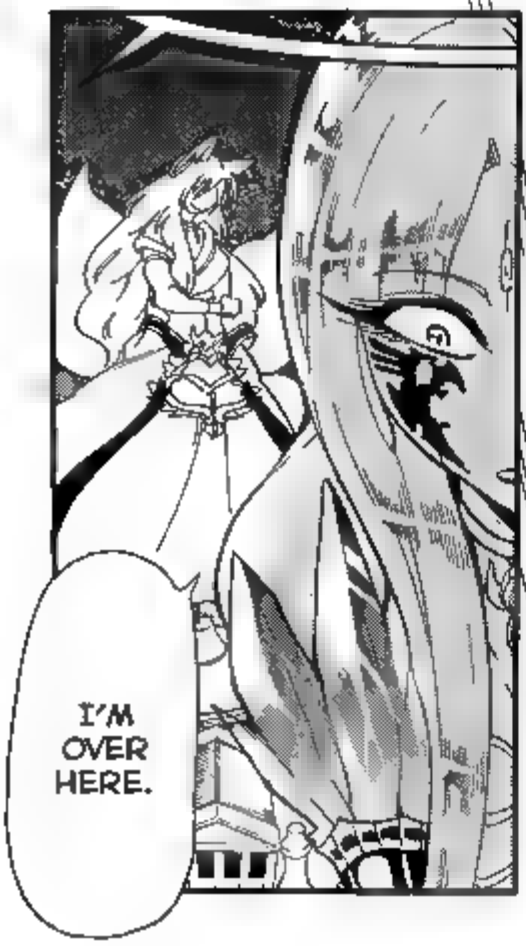
...!!

TLN Flames of Imprisonment and Annihilation

HOW DARE YOU ORDER ME AROUND ...
...YOU BAST-ARD!

I NEVER TOOK MY EYES OFF OF HIM...
...AGAIN. HOW IS HE GETTING BEHIND ME?!


A FILTHY MAN!
YOU'RE JUST


I'M OVER HERE.

!!

IT'S LIKE HE'S MOVING TOO FAST FOR ME TO SEE, AND THEN HE JUST DISAP-PEARS...

WHY?!

NO MATTER WHAT I DO, MY ATTACKS DON'T REA-CH HIM!

JUST FACING AN ENEMY THAT ONE IS UNABLE TO CATCH IS TERRIFYING... SHE MUST BE STARTING TO BELIEVE THAT NO MATTER HOW SHE STRUGGLES, SHE CAN'T FIGHT BACK.

THE QUEEN MUST SEE SIN AS A THREAT.

IT'S LIKE... FIGHTING AN OPPONENT IN ANOTHER DIMENSION ...!!

VALEFOR'S "STAGNATION" ABILITY.

THAT'S THE TRICK OF THIS MAGIC...

THIS INCLUDES THE ABILITY TO GENERATE ICE, WHICH IS DONE BY STOPPING THE MOVEMENT OF WATER PARTICLES IN THE AIR AND THEN MANIPULATING THEM FROM A LIQUID TO A SOLID FORM.
"STAGNATION"
THE POWER TO CONTROL THE MOVEMENT OF MOLECULES AND RESTRICT A SUBSTANCE'S MOVEMENT... THAT IS THE TRUE ABILITY OF JALEFOR'S METAL VESSEL.
IN HIS FULL DJINN EQUIP, SINBAD USED THIS "STAGNATION" ABILITY...
ON THE QUEEN HERSELF.

SHE STILL HASN'T REALIZED THE CHANGE...

I'M... NO MATCH FOR HIM.
UNTIL THE ENEMY FALLS INTO THE TRAP, HE'S THE ONE IN DANGER OF BEING HIT BY AN ATTACK.
YES, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, THAT STRENGTH IS ALSO VERY FRAGILE.
AMAZING ...WHAT A POWERFUL METAL VESSEL.
THAT'S WHY HE MUST BE VERY CAREFUL WHEN HE CHOOSES TO USE IT.
DUNGEON CONQUEROR, SINBAD!
THIS IS THE TRUTH ABOUT THIS MAN...
I'M... GOING TO LOSE TO A MAN... FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE I WAS BORN.
I DON'T WANT TO ACT VIOLENTLY TOWARDS A LADY, BUT...

Zarufor
Kirestal

The Next Day
SINBAD, THE QUEEN IS WAITING. ENTER!
YOUR MAJESTY. THEY'RE HERE.
ビクッ
BUT ...!!
CALM DOWN, MISTORAS.
I REALLY CAN'T TAKE IT!
WE'VE OFFENDED THE QUEEN TWICE NOW ARE WE BEING EXECUTED? EVEN THOUGH WE'VE MANAGED TO MAKE IT BACK ALIVE?!
JA'FAR WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO US?

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ジャララーン

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I'M EXHAUSTED FROM ALL THE WAITING.

YOU GUYS SURE WERE SLOW.

WE'RE HONORED TO HAVE ANOTHER AUDIENCE WITH YOU, YOUR MAJESTY.

HOWEVER... IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE FELT THAT EXCITED... HE HE
パタ
ズズッ
THANKS TO OUR BATTLE LAST NIGHT, MY SKIN IS COVERED IN BLEMISHES, AND MY BEAUTIFUL BODY IS RUINED.
Your Majesty isn't it about time to dress?
HA... SUCH EMPTY WORDS ...
LIKE I COULD IGNORE YOU.

I'LL NEVER FORGET THE EVENTS OF LAST NIGHT EITHER...
YOU'RE THE FIRST MAN TO EVER PIN ME DOWN IN DEFEAT, SINBAD.

ARTEMYRA WILL OFFICIALLY FORM AN AGREEMENT WITH SINDRIA TRADING COMPANY.
AND EVEN IF THIS IS THE ROYAL PALACE, I'VE GIVEN FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO THE OUTCOME OF DIPLOMATIC ISSUES.
I APOLOGIZE FOR OUR LAST AUDIENCE. I'M SORRY.

EVEN IN ARTEMYRA, WE'VE HAD MERCHANTS ENTER ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS,
BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE ROYAL PALACE HAS EVER AGREED TO DO BUSINESS WITH ONE.
ACCORDING TO THE TRADE PLANS SET OUT IN YOUR CORRESPONDENCE, THERE WERE SOME PRELIMINARY BUSINESS CALCULATIONS THAT YOU PROPOSED. THEY WEREN'T BAD. YOU REALLY PUT A LOT OF THOUGHT INTO THEM.
I'LL DISPATCH ONE OF MY DIPLOMATS TO YOUR COMPANY. PLEASE WORK OUT THE DETAILS WITH HER.
THIS IS A SECLUDED LAND. WE WILL ALSO PUT ALL OF OUR EFFORTS INTO COOPERATING.
IF NATIONAL INTEREST INCREASES, AND PRODUCTS INCREASE, IT WILL BENEFIT THE LIVES OF MY PEOPLE.
THANK YOU,
YOUR MAJESTY.
SINBAD
...AT LEAST, THAT'S THE OFFICIAL STANCE.
MY REAL MOTIVATION IS TO ENSURE THAT YOU DON'T BECOME MY ENEMY
COMING TO THIS COUNTRY NO ONE VISITS, WHAT WERE YOUR INTENTIONS... WHAT AN OMINOUS MAN. WHAT ARE YOU REALLY AFTER? TELL ME.
HAVING THAT MUCH POWER, YET DISGUISING YOURSELF AS AN ORDINARY MERCHANT... WHAT ARE YOU THINKING...

WHEN YOU GOT YOUR METAL VESSEL, DIDN'T YOU FEEL THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS POWER AND THE DUTY THAT CAME WITH IT?
ISN'T THIS... THE OBLIGATION OF THOSE CHOSEN BY THE DJINN TO BECOME "KING CANDIDATES"?
YOUR MAJESTY...
I HAVE A DREAM I MUST REALIZE.
IN ORDER TO CREATE A WORLD WITHOUT CONFLICT, YOUR POWER... AND YOUR COOPERATION... ARE NECESSARY.
OH? TELL ME MORE ...

A WORLD WITHOUT CONFLICT...I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN.

...SINBAD.

IN ORDER TO PREVENT THAT, AND TO PREPARE FOR WHEN IT MIGHT HAPPEN,

YOU WANT TO BRING PEOPLE WITH POWER TOGETHER TO SHARE THEIR IDEAS AND FORM AN ALLIANCE ...

THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN BY BRINGING ABOUT "WORLD COOPERATION."

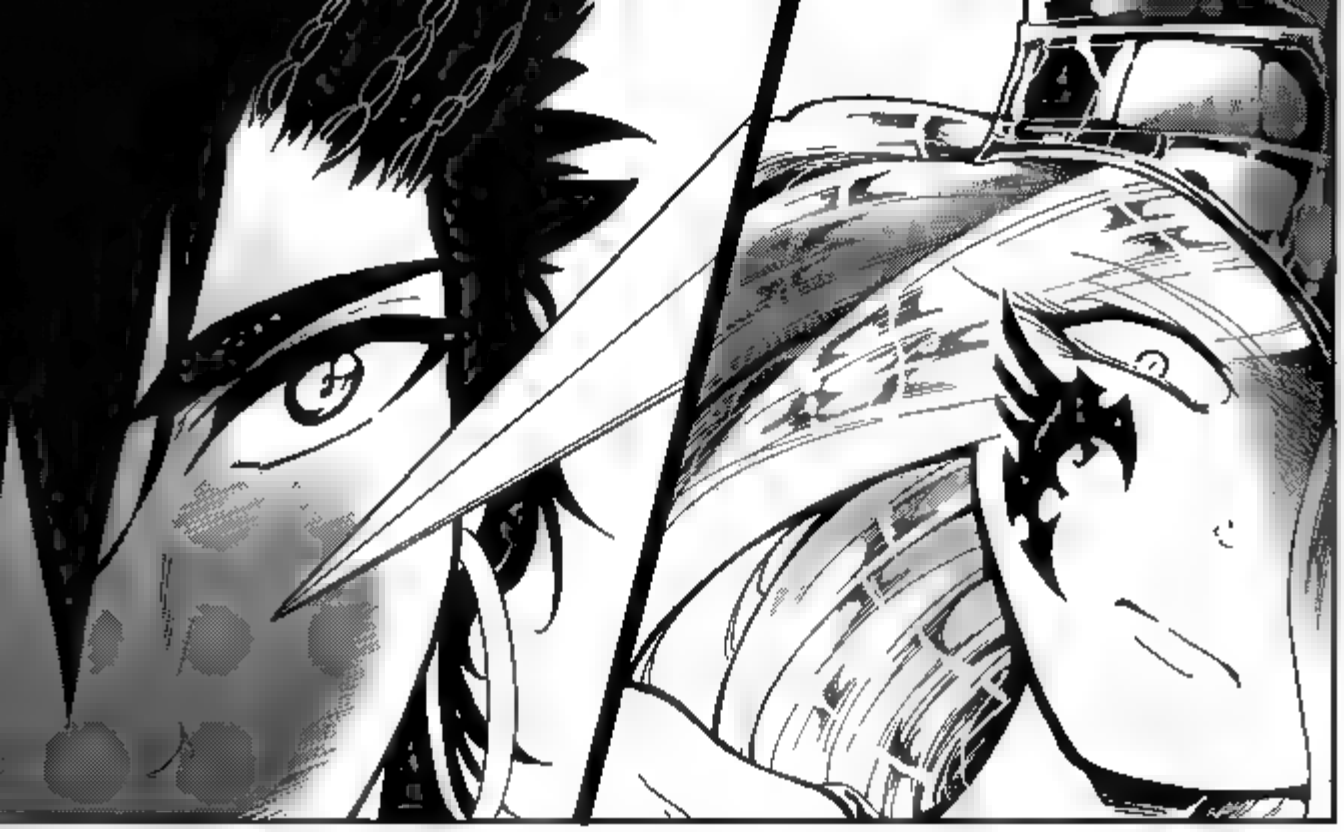
JUST AS YOU SAID, THESE "METAL VESSELS" COULD BE THE SPARK THAT IGNITES NEW FLAMES OF WAR,

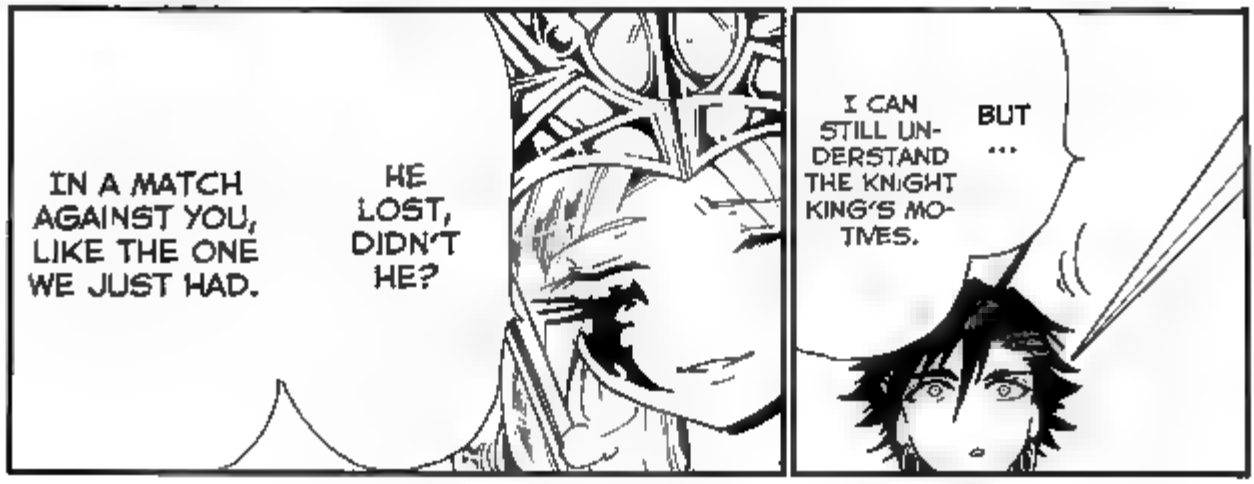
AND SOONER OR LATER THEY WILL UPSET THE BALANCE OF THE WORLD.

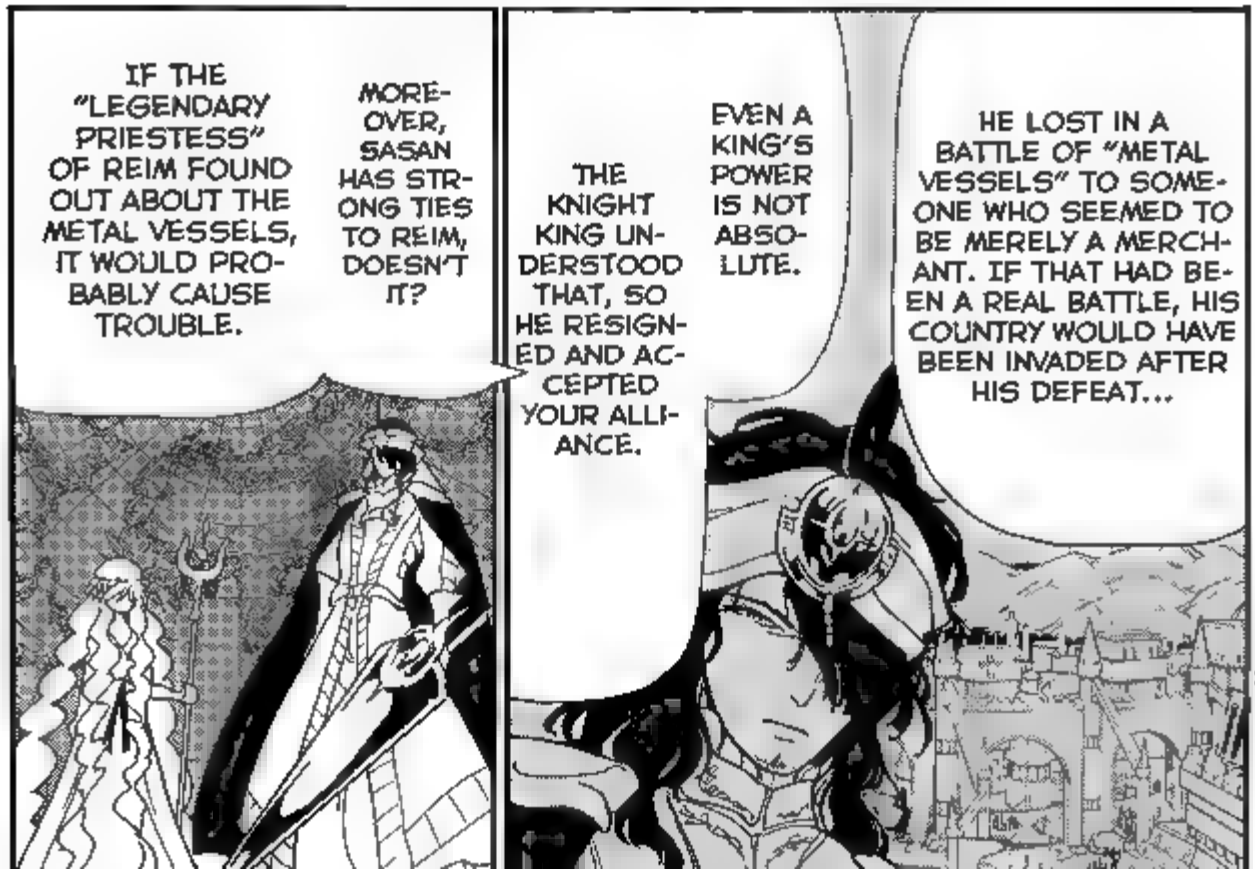
YES.

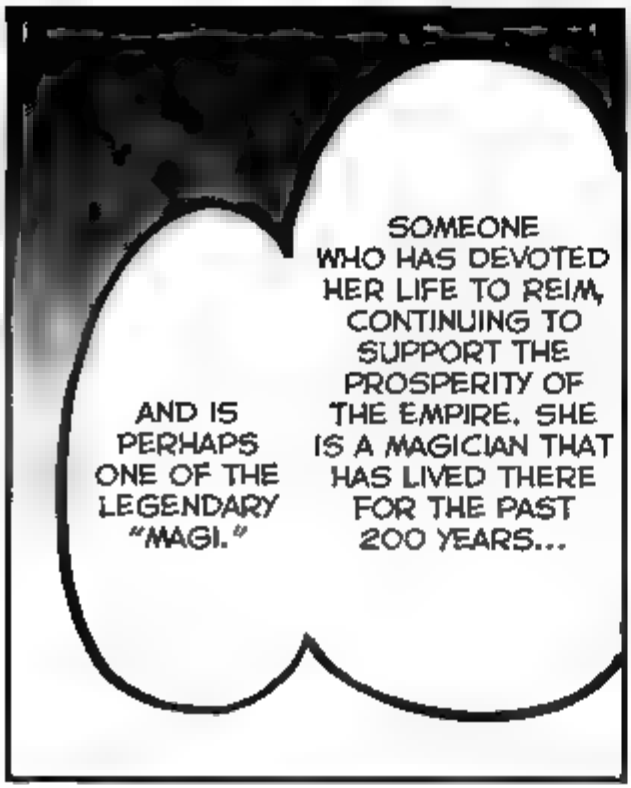
I'VE ALREADY FORMED ALLIANCES WITH RAMETOTO OF IMUCHAKK, AND KNIGHT KING DARIUS OF SASAN.

YOU MADE AN ALLIANCE WITH THAT STRICT COUNTRY OF KNIGHTS? EVEN THOUGH IT IS A SMALL COUNTRY, TO GET THE KING OF ANY COUNTRY TO BUY SUCH A WILD TALE...
AS THE SON OF THE KNIGHT KING, HE IS ACCOMPANYING US AS A SYMBOL OF OUR ALLIANCE WITH SASAN.
THIS IS MISTORAS LEOXIS.
"METAL VESSELS" MADE THAT A POSSIBILITY. THAT ALONE IS TREMENDOUS.
I HEARD THE KNIGHT KING INVADED ONE OR TWO OF SASAN'S NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES TO TRY TO EXPAND THEIR TERRITORY.
AND ISN'T SASAN ALSO A FAIRLY WEALTHY COUNTRY?
DO YOU REALLY THINK I'LL AGREE TO THAT?
THAT APPLIES TO MY COUNTRY, TOO.
HOWEVER, CREATING AN "ALLIANCE" WOULD ACT AS A SORT OF BINDING FORCE TO RESTRICT THE USE OF SUCH POWER



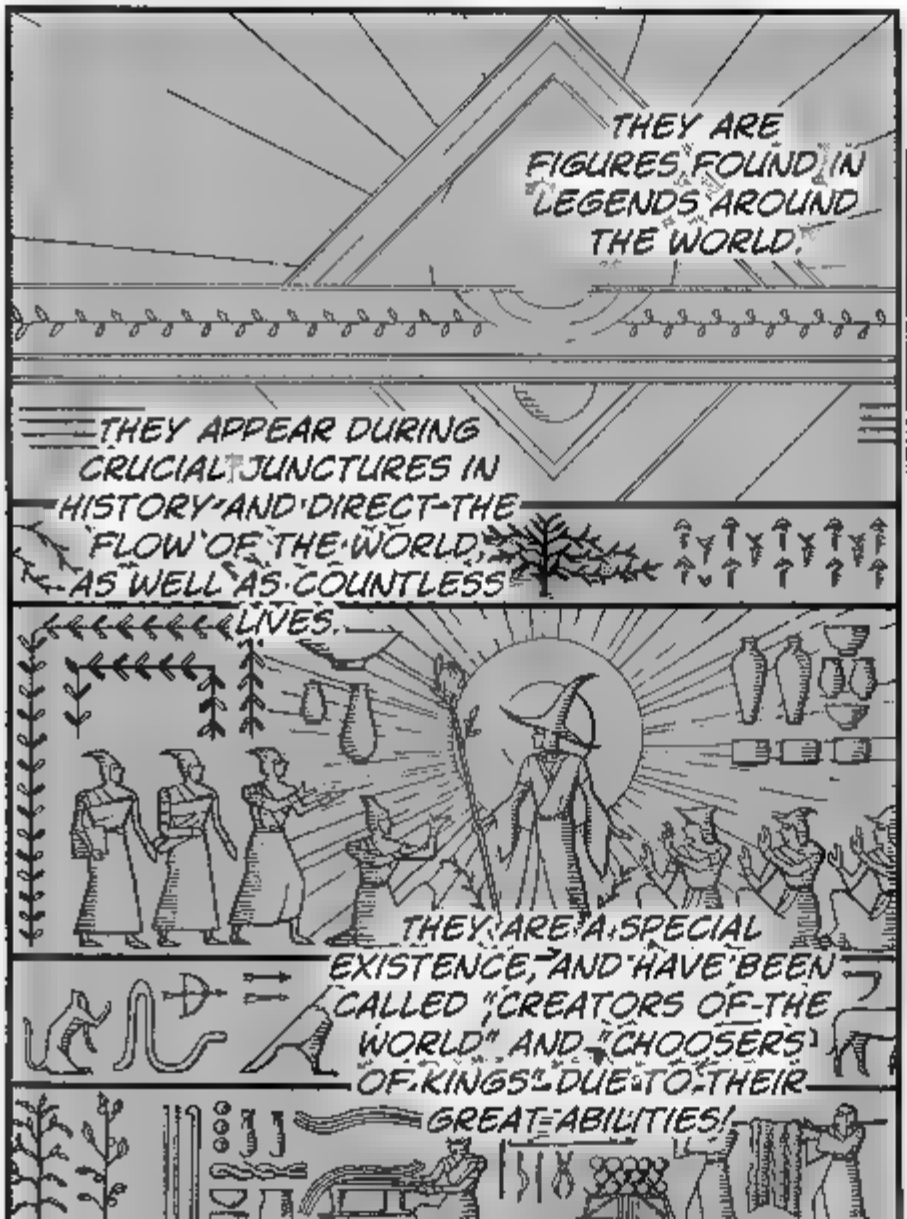

IN A MATCH AGAINST YOU, LIKE THE ONE WE JUST HAD.
HE LOST, DIDN'T HE?
I CAN STILL UNDERSTAND THE KNIGHT KING'S MOTIVES.
BUT ...


IF THE "LEGENDARY PRIESTESS" OF REIM FOUND OUT ABOUT THE METAL VESSELS, IT WOULD PROBABLY CAUSE TROUBLE.
MOREOVER, SASAN HAS STRONG TIES TO REIM, DOESN'T IT?
THE KNIGHT KING UNDERSTOOD THAT, SO HE RESIGNED AND ACCEPTED YOUR ALLIANCE.
EVEN A KING'S POWER IS NOT ABSOLUTE.
HE LOST IN A BATTLE OF "METAL VESSELS" TO SOMEONE WHO SEEMED TO BE MERELY A MERCHANT. IF THAT HAD BEEN A REAL BATTLE, HIS COUNTRY WOULD HAVE BEEN INVADED AFTER HIS DEFEAT...


SOMEONE WHO HAS DEVOTED HER LIFE TO REIM, CONTINUING TO SUPPORT THE PROSPERITY OF THE EMPIRE. SHE IS A MAGICIAN THAT HAS LIVED THERE FOR THE PAST 200 YEARS...
AND IS PERHAPS ONE OF THE LEGENDARY "MAGI."

"LEGENDARY PRIESTESS" OF REIM?
WHAT THE HELL YOU GUYS? YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT HER EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE MERCHANTS FROM REIM?

WE DON'T REALLY KNOW MUCH ABOUT REIM'S TERRITORIES BESIDES NAPOLIA...
THE "LEGENDARY PRIESTESS" IS ...
フフ...


THEY ARE FIGURES FOUND IN LEGENDS AROUND THE WORLD.
THEY APPEAR DURING CRUCIAL JUNCTURES IN HISTORY AND DIRECT THE FLOW OF THE WORLD, AS WELL AS COUNTLESS LIVES.
THEY ARE A SPECIAL EXISTENCE, AND HAVE BEEN CALLED "CREATORS OF THE WORLD" AND "CHOOSERS OF KINGS" DUE TO THEIR GREAT ABILITIES!

200 YEARS ?!!!
A LEGENDARY "MAGI"?

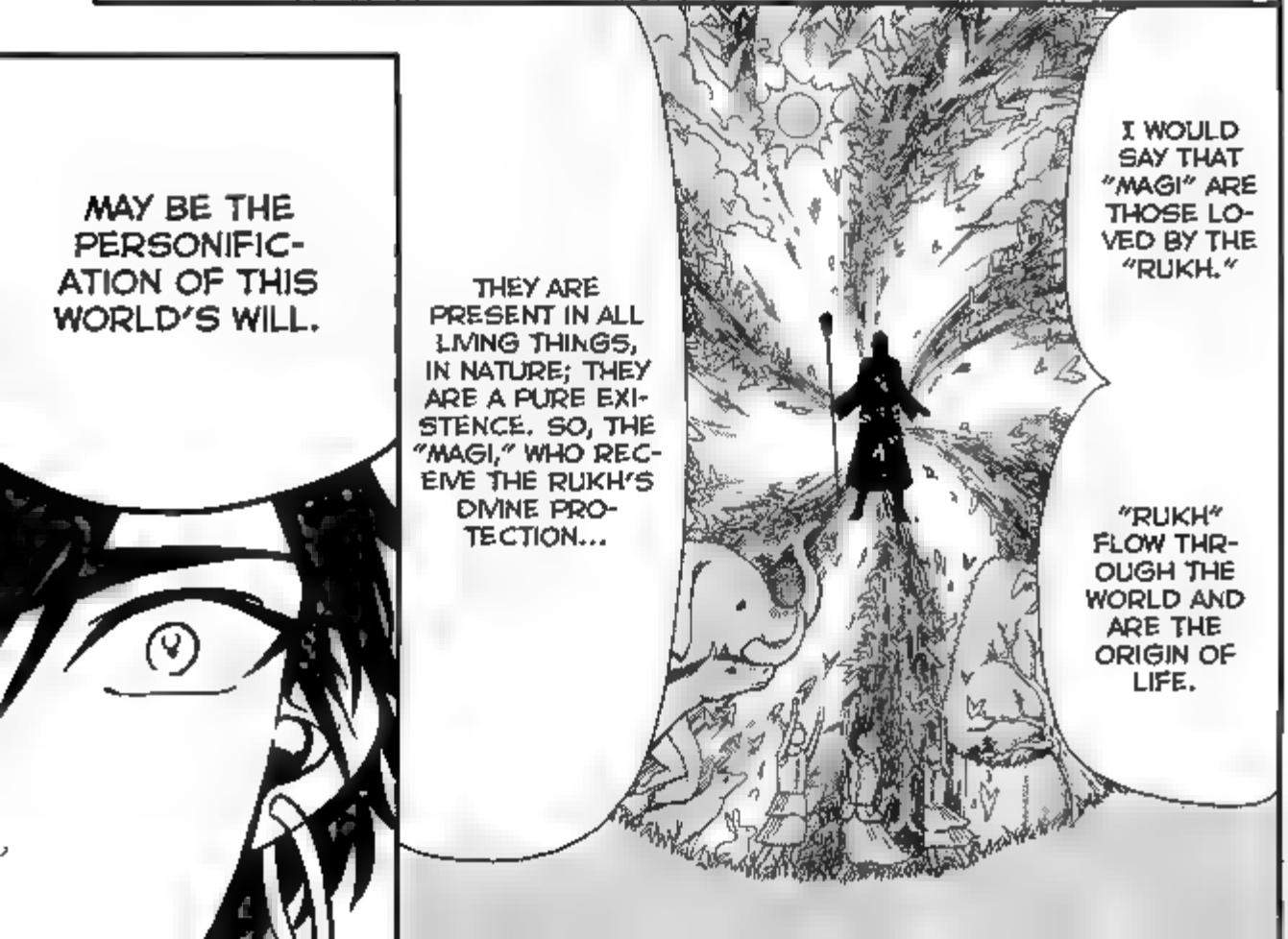
EXCUSE ME, BUT... WHAT IS A "MAGI"?
A "MAGI"... EVEN NOW, WE KNOW LITTLE ABOUT THEM, BUT ...

A "MAGI."
THAT IS
BUT, WE STILL DON'T KNOW ALL THE DETAILS.
SINCE LONG AGO, WE HAVE SEARCHED FOR AN EXPLANATION FOR THAT POWER, AND WE HAPPENED TO LEARN A LITTLE ABOUT "MAGI" ALONG THE WAY.
ARTEMYRA'S PEOPLE HAVE A SPECIAL ABILITY.
"MAGI"...

DOESN'T THAT SOUND LIKE ALL THE "DUNGEONS" THAT HAVE BEEN APPEARING AROUND THE WORLD?
FOR EXAMPLE, IT SEEMS THAT WITH A SINGLE WAVE OF THEIR WAND, THEY CAN RAISE A "TOWER" THAT CONTAINS THE POWER TO CREATE A KING, AND THEN LEAD THEIR CHOSEN "KING" THERE.
"MAGI" HAVE POWER BEYOND THAT OF HUMAN COMPREHENSION.
6
WE STILL HAVE NO PROOF THAT REIM'S PRIESTESS ACTUALLY IS A "MAGI."
BUT, I DON'T THINK THE DUNGEON THAT I CONQUERED WAS RAISED BY REIM'S "MAGI" ...
... YUNAN?
"MAGI"... "DUNGEON"... NO WAY...

... YOUR MAJESTY
BUT, "MAGI" ARE A LEGENDARY EXISTENCE. DOES THAT MEAN THAT I'VE ALREADY MET ONE...?
HE COULDN'T BE A "MAGI," COULD HE...? I JUST THOUGHT HE WAS SOME MYSTERIOUS GUY, BUT... ALL THIS MAKES HIM COME TO MIND.

BUT, IF I HAD TO DESCRIBE THEM...
LIKE I TOLD YOU, WE DO NOT KNOW ANY MORE DETAILS.
WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE ARE "MAGI"?


MAY BE THE PERSONIFICATION OF THIS WORLD'S WILL.
THEY ARE PRESENT IN ALL LIVING THINGS, IN NATURE; THEY ARE A PURE EXISTENCE. SO, THE "MAGI," WHO RECEIVE THE RUKH'S DIVINE PROTECTION...
I WOULD SAY THAT "MAGI" ARE THOSE LOVED BY THE "RUKH."
"RUKH" FLOW THROUGH THE WORLD AND ARE THE ORIGIN OF LIFE.

THE FACT THAT DUNGEONS HAVE APPEARED WORLDWIDE,
AND THE FACT THAT WE CONQUERED THOSE DUNGEONS, EVEN BY ACCIDENT...
WE MAY HAVE BEEN LEAD TO THIS POINT... BY THE WILL OF SOMETHING OTHER THAN OURSELVES.
THANK YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS...
LET US FORM AN ALLIANCE.
...THAT WAS A LONG PREFACE, WAS IT NOT? ANYWAY, YOU ARE THE ONLY MAN I CAN APPROVE OF.

WHEN YOU STARTED THAT DJINN EQUIP BATTLE WITH THE QUEEN, SIN, I REALLY WONDERED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO US.

I'M GLAD WE SOMEHOW MANAGED TO SETTLE THAT AMICABLY.

YOU JUST ABUSED YOUR POWER AND MANIPULATED PEOPLE THE SAME WAY YOU D.D IN SASAN! QUIT BEING SO IRRESPONSIBLE AND BE MORE DILIGENT WITH YOUR STUDIES!

UMM ...

BUT SOMEHOW IT TURNED OUT FINE.

ガクガクッ

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WE'RE LEAVING TOMORROW, RIGHT? ... SO, UNTIL THEN... DO WE HAVE FREE TIME?

YES. THAT WAS THE PLAN ...

...WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? TELL ME, MISTORAS!

HUH? HUH? N...N...NOTHING?! I DEFINITELY COULDN'T DO SOMETHING WITH THAT GIRL JUST BECAUSE I MADE IT BACK FROM THAT VALLEY ALIVE??

MISTORAS, WHAT'S WRONG?

I SAID I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING, DIDN'T I?!

YOU'RE SUCH A TERRIBLE LIAR!!

ブンブンブンブンブンブン

WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE BOY FROM BEFORE. YOU REALLY DID COME BACK FROM THE VALLEY OF THE DEAD, HUH?

I won't!

Tell me!

I'M GLAD THAT I COULD DO MY BEST THANKS TO YOU!

IS THAT TRUE?! I'M SO HAPPY!

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN PRAISED YOU. SHE SAID YOU REALLY HAD GUTS.

ヴルヴルヴルヴル

キャイン

キャン

HUHP NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I FEEL LIKE THERE IS SOMETHING IMPORTANT I'VE FORGOTTEN...

LIFE IN THE VALLEY... THAT'S A MEMORY I'D LIKE TO HURRY UP AND FORGET ...

WAS THIS THE REASON HE WANTED TO HURRY UP AND GET OUT OF THAT VALLEY?!

HE COULDN'T HAVE ..

バシッ

DID YOU REALLY WANT YOUR REWARD OF DOING SOMETHING NICE WITH ME THAT BADLY? TEEHEHE... HOW CUTE.

YES!

TEEHEHE ...ALTHOUGH WE'RE A BIT RELUCTANT TO LET HIM GO...

IT'S A LITTLE LATE, BUT HERE IS THE OTHER MEMBER OF YOUR PARTY WE HAD RESTRAINED.

USING ONE OF OUR IMPORTANT GUESTS SO CRUELLY...

BUT WE'VE DONE SOMETHING BAD.

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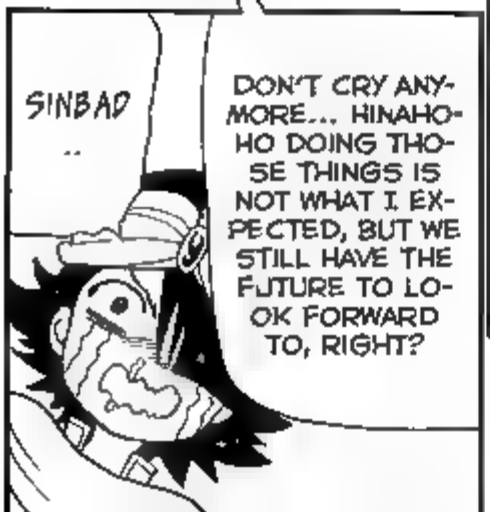
フイッ
HINA-HOHO?

THANKS, HINAHOHO.
IT FELT GREA... I MEAN, IT REALLY HELPED US.
WE HAD HIM FULLY COOPERATE WITH OUR RESEARCH.
YOU WERE REALLY GOOD!
COME SEE US AGAIN SOMETIME!
さっ

IT'S NOT MY FAULT!
ぶるぶる
HINAHOHO...
ブチッ
I NEVER... CROSSED THAT LAST LINE!
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING BAD!
HINAHOHO... YOU... RURUMU...
ボッ

ビク ビク

AAAAAAAAH!!



THE RED-LIGHT DISTRICT!

THAT'S RIGHT... WE HAD A PATH OPEN TO US FROM THE BEGINNING, D.DN'T WE?

OUR PARA-DISE ...

TH.S COUNTRY'S HEAVEN THAT STIMULATED OUR INTELL-ECTUAL DE-SIRE. THAT'S RIGHT...

ギャーイ

... THEY ARE GO-ING AFTER ALL, HUH?

TO THE RED-LIGHT DISTRICT?

It's not my fault it's not.

HUH? THE RED-LIGHT DISTRICT?

OH MY THEY DON'T REA.IZE, DO THEY?

WHAT?

YEAH! FOLLOW ME!

I'LL FOLLOW YOU FOR-EVER!

YES, THERE ARE!

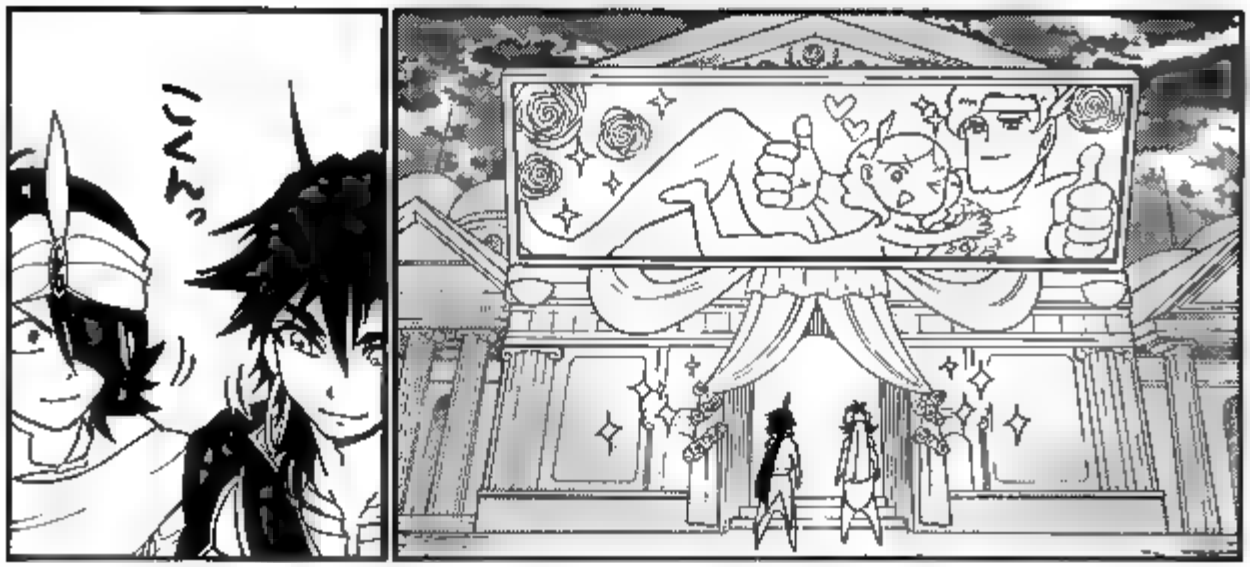
IF IT'S THE RED-LIGHT DISTRICT, THERE ARE LOTS OF PR-ETTY GIRLS, RIGHT?

WE CAN!

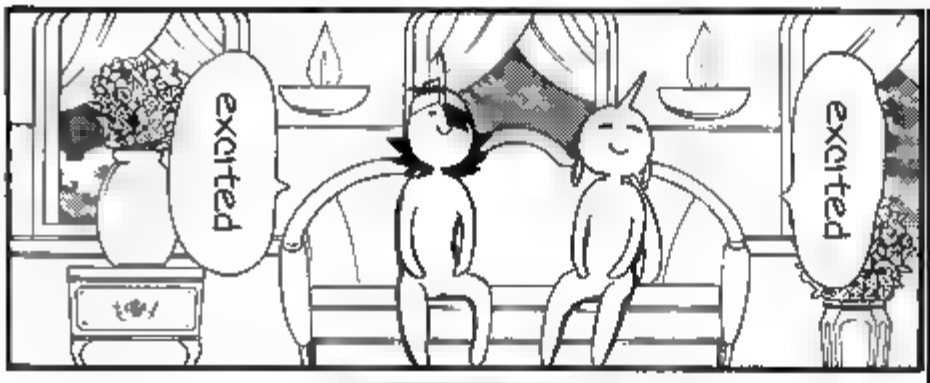
IF IT'S THE RED-LIGHT DIS-TRICT, WE CAN DO NICE THINGS WITH GIRLS, RIGHT?!

WH-AT!

SIN-BAD!


こんんっ

WE'RE HERE!


excited
excited

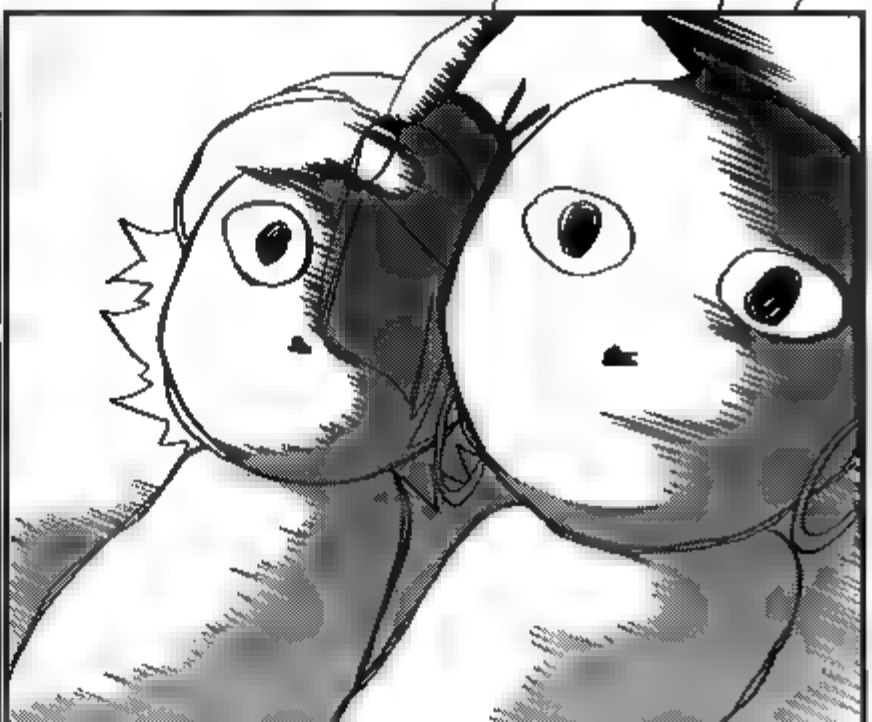
HERE IN ARTEMYRA, WOMEN WORK OUTSIDE THE HOUSE, RIGHT? THE RED-LIGHT DISTRICT IS THERE TO SOOTHE AND ENTERTAIN BUSY WOMEN. SO, EVERYONE IN THE SHOPS IS...

PLEASE FULLY ENJOY YOURSELVES.
IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME HERE?

NO!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING...

BEST MEN!

HERE ARE OUR SHOP'S



GOOD MORNING.
I'LL BE TRAVELING WITH YOU FROM TOO DAY ON. I'M ARTEMYRA'S DIPLOMAT, PARSINE.
AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF OUR ALLIANCE, AND AS AN INTERMEDIARY TO HELP PROCESS AND MANAGE TRADE, I'LL BE JOINING YOU...
Diplomat
Parsine Pratemia
UMM ...
.....

ズーン…

NO, LET'S LEAVE TODAY.

UMM... IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL, WE COULD WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW TO LEAVE...

HEY, STOP IT, MISTORAS ...IT JUST BRINGS BACK MEMORIES.

MACHO FESTIVAL ...

NO. IT'S NOTHING.

...DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO THE TWO OF YOU?

……

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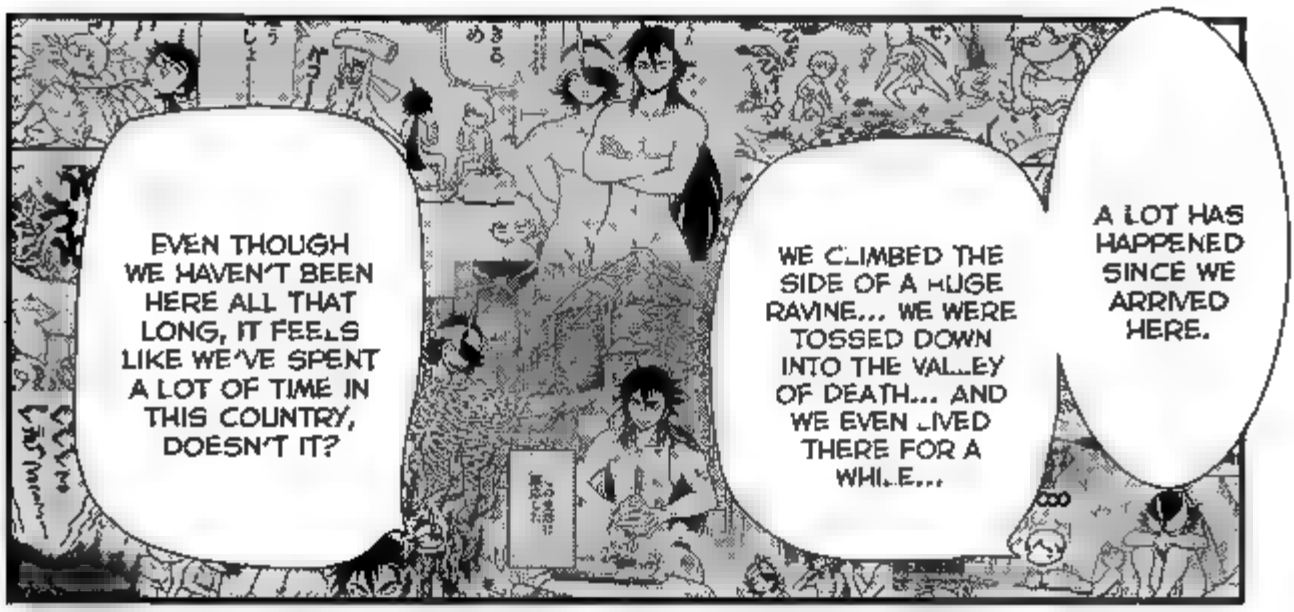
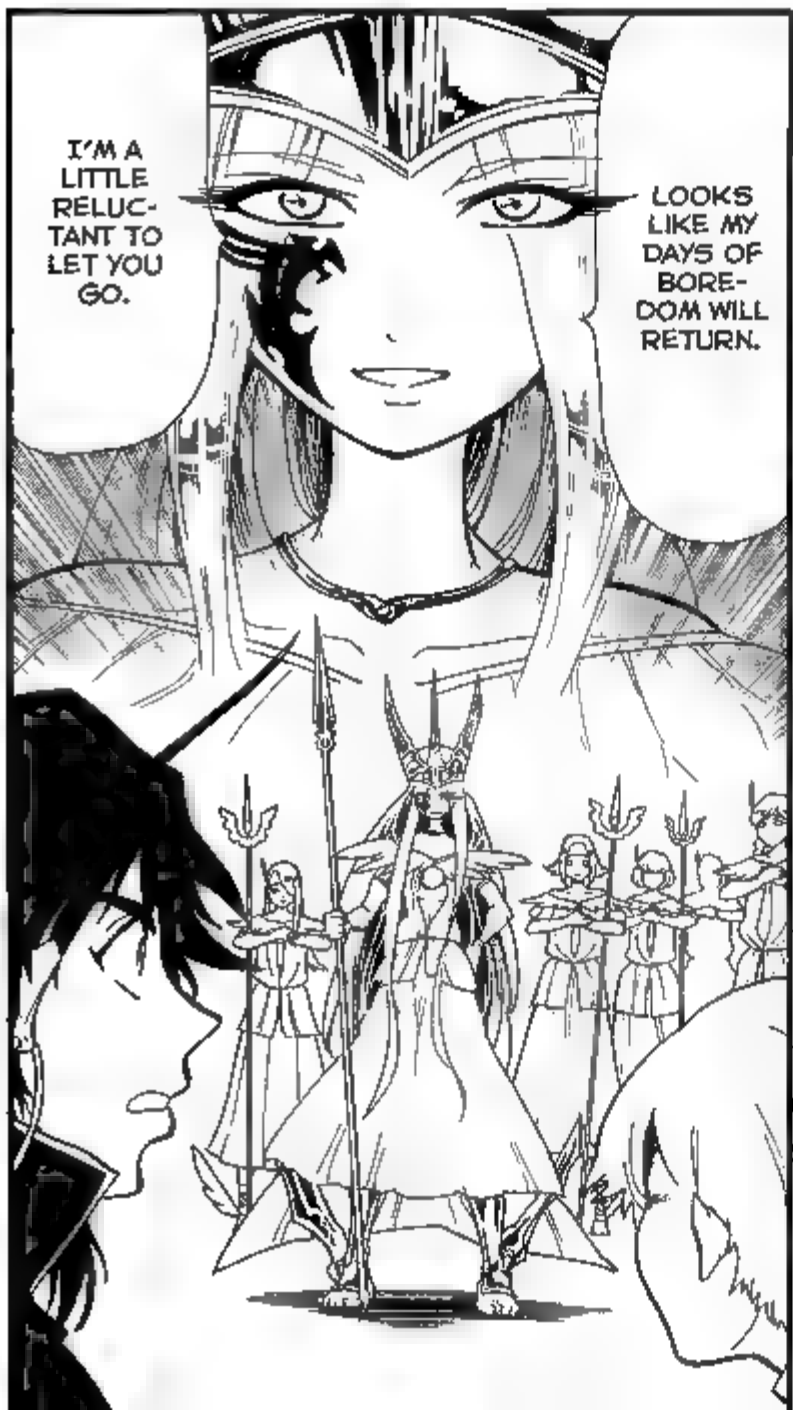
PLEASE GET ON THEIR BACKS.
THESE BIRDS WILL TAKE YOU BACK TO YOUR SHIP.
Oh—!!
...LOOKS LIKE THIS IS FAREWELL TO ARTEMYRA.


EVEN THOUGH WE HAVEN'T BEEN HERE ALL THAT LONG, IT FEELS LIKE WE'VE SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN THIS COUNTRY, DOESN'T IT?
WE CLIMBED THE SIDE OF A HUGE RAVINE... WE WERE TOSSED DOWN INTO THE VALLEY OF DEATH... AND WE EVEN LIVED THERE FOR A WHILE...
A LOT HAS HAPPENED SINCE WE ARRIVED HERE.


I'M A LITTLE RELUCTANT TO LET YOU GO.
LOOKS LIKE MY DAYS OF BOREDOM WILL RETURN.

!!
!!

IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR YOU TO LEAVE... HUH?

YOUR MAJESTY ...!

YOU DIDN'T NEED TO COME HERE JUST TO SEE US OFF...

You always get angry

I'VE REALLY COME TO LIKE YOU GUYS, MORE THAN ANYONE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES I'VE DEVELOPED FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH. THAT'S THE ONLY REASON I'M HERE.

DON'T WORRY

BESIDES ...

IN THE FUTURE, I MAY ENTRUST MY BELOVED DAUGHTERS TO YOUR CARE. I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD AT LEAST MEET THEM.

IF WE DON'T UNDERSTAND THE CONDITION OF THE WORLD AROUND US, WE MAY NO LONGER BE ABLE TO PROTECT OUR COUNTRY

I WANT TO CREATE A PLACE FOR THEM WITH YOU, SO THAT THEY CAN BROADEN THEIR EXPERIENCES.

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.. WELL, THAT WILL ALL BE FAR INTO THE FUTURE, THOUGH.

KAHA. WHAT CUTE LITTLE LADIES.

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.....

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THESE ARE ALL MY DAUGHTERS.

THEY'RE CUTE, RIGHT?

HAVING SO MANY CHILDREN IS NATURAL IN THIS COUNTRY. OH...

...YOUR MAJESTY HAS REALLY BEEN BLESSED WITH CHILDREN!

THERE'S STILL ONE MORE.

HUH?

ぎゅ

SFX GRAB

DESPITE HER SMALL SIZE, SHE ALREADY POSSESSES ENOUGH POWER TO CONTROL OUR LARGE BIRDS. I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR HER
THAT'S PISTI, MY YOUNGEST DAUGHTER.
HEHE... IT SEEMS SHE'S TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU.
For me?
nod, nod

GUIDE YOU ON YOUR JOUR-NEY...
SINBAD, MAY THE RUKH...
THAT IT'S A COPY OF THE FEATHERS OF THE RUKH IT'S A LUCKY FEATHER.
THAT FEATHER SHE GAVE YOU... IT'S SAID IN OUR COUNTRY,
...THANK YOU!

UMM... MOTHER...
THAT PERSON... HE SMELLED LIKE THE WAVES OF SOME FARAWAY PLACE.
PISTI, HE'S THE FIRST PERSON LIKE THAT TO COME HERE.
HEHE...
HOW TRUE. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOUR MOTHER'S MET A MAN LIKE THAT
HE'S AN INTERESTING MAN, ISN'T HE?
I WONDER JUST WHAT KIND OF WAVES HE'LL CREATE IN THIS WORLD...
I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD KEEP AN EYE ON HIM.

Reim Empire,
Napolia, Sindria
Trading Company

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SEEMS LIKE SINDRIA TRADING COMPANY IS FLOURISHING AGAIN TODAY, EVERYONE!

YOU'VE RETURNED!

PRESIDENT SINBAD!!

...H.M, RIGHT?

SO, THE PERSON THAT TOOK HER PLACE WOULD BE...

SORRY FOR LEAVING THINGS TO YOU FOR SUCH A LONG TIME. I'D LIKE TO CHECK ON THE COMPANY'S STATE OF AFFAIRS. IS RURUMU HERE?

RURUMU IS CURRENTLY BACK IN HER VILLAGE FOR THE FINAL MONTH OF HER PREGNANCY...

ズン

AH... SO IT'S THAT TIME...

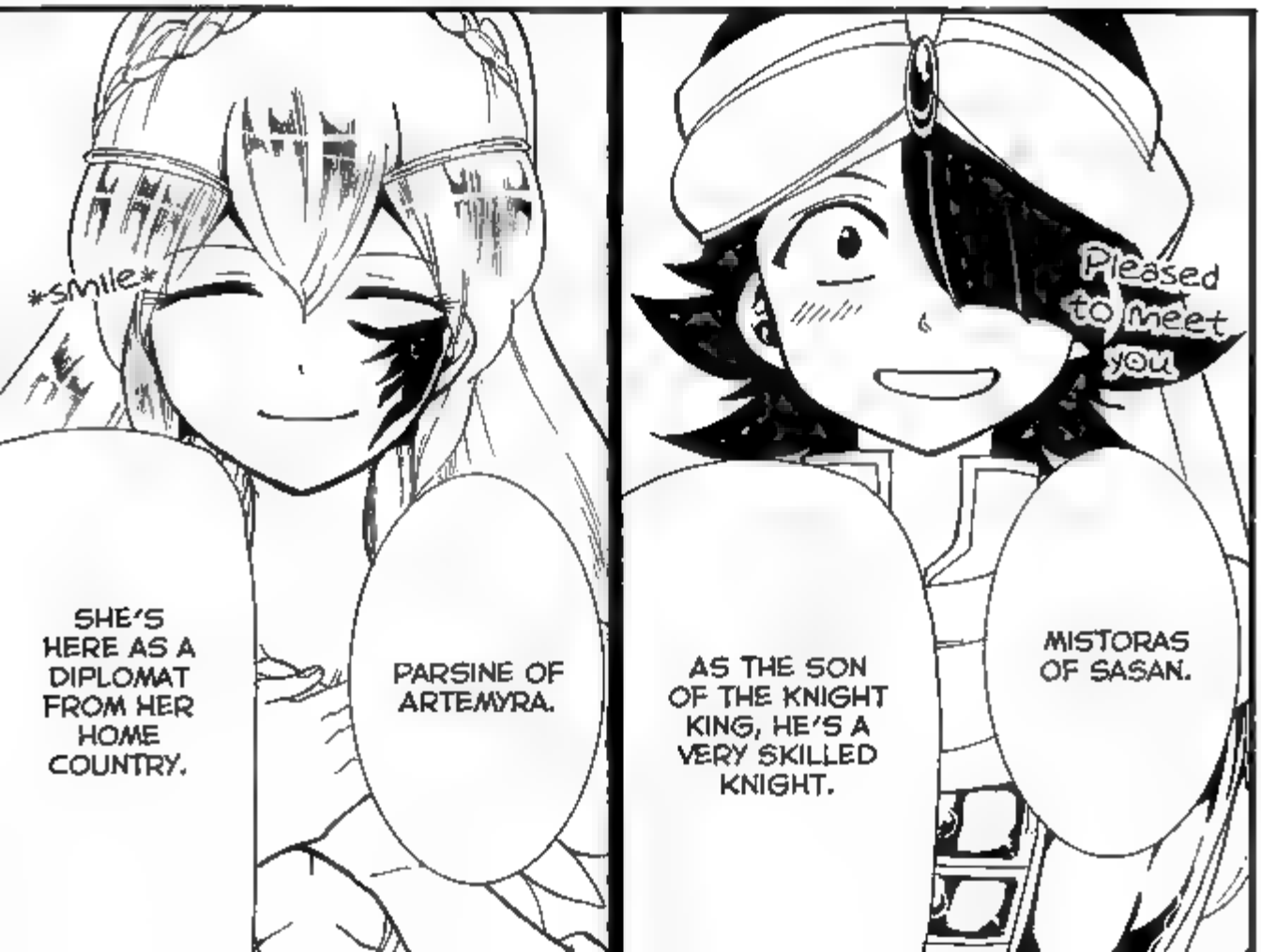
YO!

VITEL!

ガッ

WE... WELCOME HOME!!
SINBAD?!
VITEL? HEEEY...
HUH?
.....
.....
SINBAD.
IT WAS TOUGH, HUH? THANKS, VITEL.
IT'S MY FAULT FOR LEAVING THE COMPANY TO YOU.
I'M SORRY! I'M A LITTLE TIRED AND...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? DON'T APOLOGIZE.
You worked that hard, huh?
...AND MAKE SURE YOU COME!
PLUS, IT'S MY DUTY TO PROPERLY INTRODUCE OUR NEW ALLIES FROM SASAN AND ARTEMYRA!
WHAT IS IT? I JUST RETURNED, DIDN'T I?
Could this be
WHAT IS THIS?
BY THE WAY, PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THIS BILL FOR ME.

A PARTY!!


smile
SHE'S HERE AS A DIPLOMAT FROM HER HOME COUNTRY.
PARSINE OF ARTEMYRA.
Pleased to meet you
AS THE SON OF THE KNIGHT KING, HE'S A VERY SKILLED KNIGHT.
MISTORAS OF SASAN.

ゴゴゴ

SINBAD...!

カッ

PARSINE IS... WELL, SHE CAN BE SCARY IF YOU MAKE HER ANGRY, SO PLEASE BE CAREFUL, EVERYONE.

BY THE WAY, MISTORAS IS LOOKING FOR A GREAT GIRLFRIEND.

Ye..ah ???

SINDRIA TRADING COMPANY WILL CONTINUE TO GROW!!

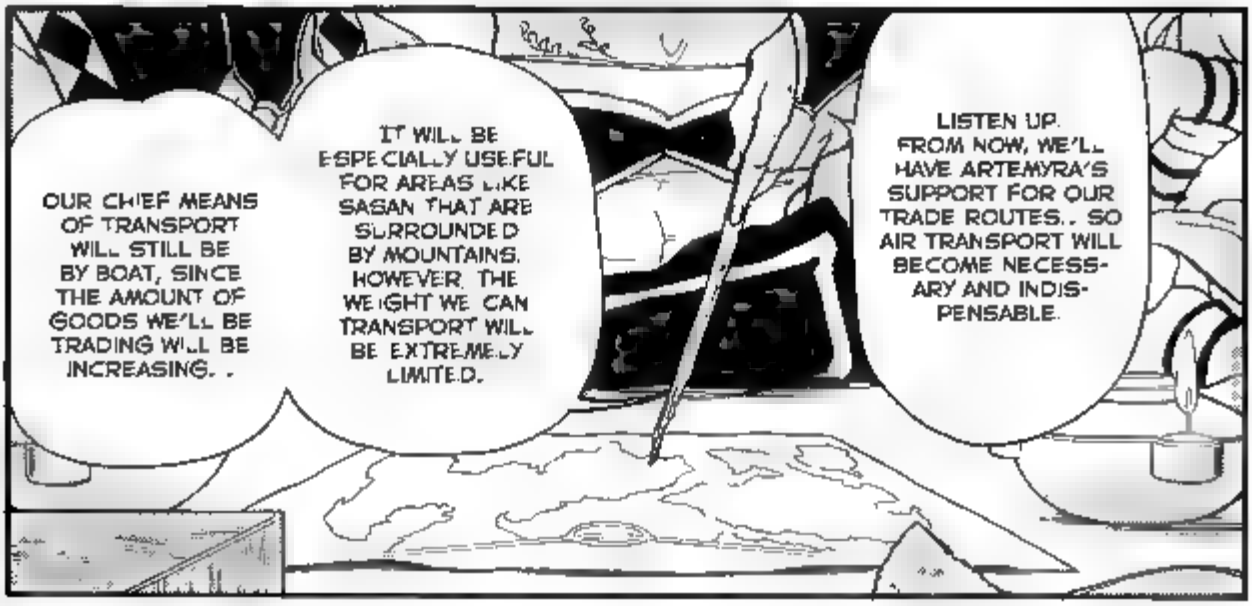
FROM NOW ON...

THEY ARE OUR PRECIOUS AND TRUSTWORTHY ALLIES.
THESE THREE COUNTRIES WILL GIVE US OUR FUTURE...
SASAN, ARTEMYRA, AND IMU-CHAKK...
NO, THE BEST IN ALL OF REIM/ AND...
LET'S MAKE SINDRIA TRADING COMPANY THE BEST IN NAPOLIA ...
BUT IF WE STICK TOGETHER, THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN'T DO.
OUR WORK AND OUR NUMBERS WILL CONTINUE TO GROW.
A WORLD FOR THE SAKE OF OUR IDEAL FUTURE!!
LET'S CREATE OUR OWN WORLD.

Yeah!!
SINDRIA TRADING COMPANY.
...SO THIS IS...

My, my.

So cool!
A knight? How wonderful!


OUR CHIEF MEANS OF TRANSPORT WILL STILL BE BY BOAT, SINCE THE AMOUNT OF GOODS WE'LL BE TRADING WILL BE INCREASING. .
IT WILL BE ESPECIALLY USEFUL FOR AREAS LIKE SASAN THAT ARE SURROUNDED BY MOUNTAINS. HOWEVER, THE WEIGHT WE CAN TRANSPORT WILL BE EXTREMELY LIMITED.
LISTEN UP. FROM NOW, WE'LL HAVE ARTEMYRA'S SUPPORT FOR OUR TRADE ROUTES. . SO AIR TRANSPORT WILL BECOME NECESSARY AND INDISPENSABLE.

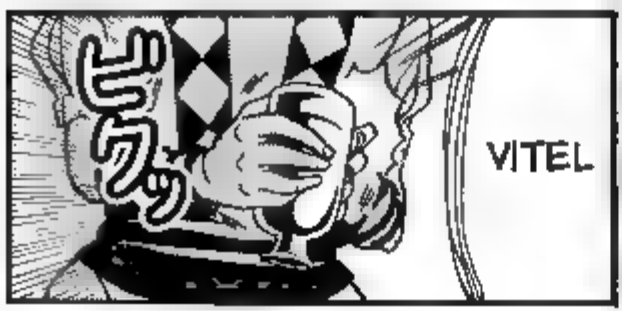
AND WE WILL HAVE TO ELECT THOSE WHO WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THOSE OFFICES.

IN ADDITION, WE'LL NEED TO SET UP BRANCH OFFICES IN BOTH SASAN AND ARTEMYRA.

WE'LL GET A LOAN FROM THE BANK ASSOCIATED WITH THE MERCHANT'S GUILD, AND WE CAN SOLICIT HELP FROM OUR INVESTORS. ALSO, WE'LL COLLECT ANY OUTSTANDING BILLS FROM OUR CUSTOMERS.

IT SEEMS LIKE WE'LL NEED THREE TIMES AS MANY SHIPS AS WE HAVE NOW. . WHERE WILL WE GET ALL THAT MONEY?

WE'LL HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER MEANS OF GETTING THOSE FUNDS. . TOMORROW, I'LL WORK WITH OUR ACCOUNTANTS TO SET UP A YEAR-LONG BUDGET.



HE SAID HE ABSOLUTELY MUST MEET WITH PRESIDENT SINBAD ...

HUH? BUT THE SHOP IS CLOSED TODAY, ISN'T IT?

WE HAVE A CUSTOMER ...

WH... WHAT IS IT?!

WE TOLD HIM THAT, BUT...

オロオロ

ビキ ビキ

KYA-AAA!

WHO KNOWS? THE GIRLS SEEMED ODDLY SCARED AND DIDN'T TELL ME ANYTHING ELSE ..

...A CUSTOMER FOR ME? WHAT COULD THEY WANT AT A TIME LIKE THIS...

OH WELL ... LET'S JUST GET IT OVER WITH...

バン

WHAT'S GOING ON?!

WH... WHAT THE HELL IS HE ...?!

I DIDN'T INTEND TO STARTLE ANYONE...
MY HOOD SLIPPED ...AND MY FACE WAS UNFORTUNATELY EXPOSED. THEN, I ONLY WISHED TO OFFER MY HAND TO HELP UP THE YOUNG LADY WHO HAD FALLEN OVER IN SURPRISE...
Sinbad~
...I'M SORRY.
ゲッ...
...YOU ARE...?
バッ
I WON'T APPROVE OF THAT MAN!
BRINGING US HERE WITHOUT TELLING US
PRIN-CESS!
...THAT MAN IS THAT MAN IS A TRAITOR!
THAT MAN IS ALSO THE ONE WHO HUMILIATED ME
MY BITTER ENEMY!

HAVING TO APPEAR BEFORE MY ENEMY LIKE THIS... IS TRULY DISGRACEFUL!

I AM THE FIRST PRINCESS OF THE PARTHEVIA EMPIRE, SERENDINE!

I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY WITH SAYING YOU FORGOT ABOUT ME!

PLEASE ...
...I'M BEGGING YOU...
PLEASE HELP US.
COULD YOU BE ...

DRAKON.

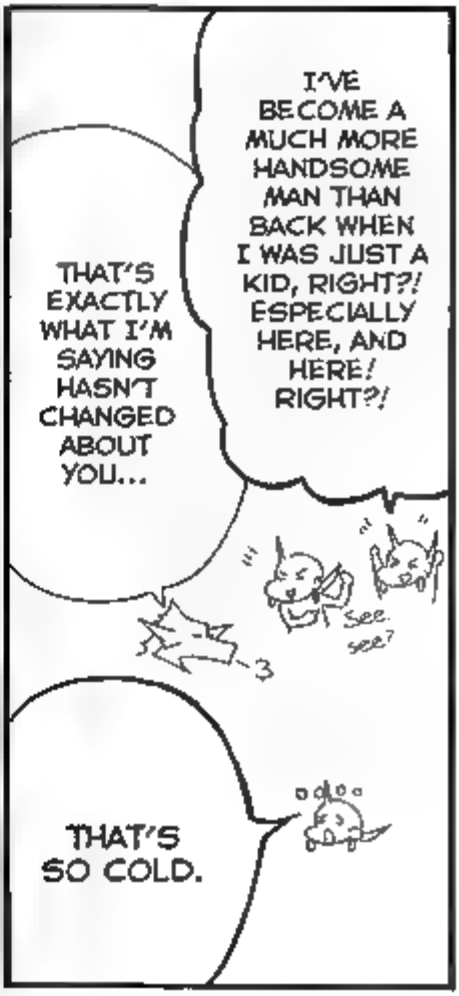
...THAT REALLY WAS SURPRISING.
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT HIM, HE DOESN'T SEEM HUMAN ...
IS HE REALLY... THE SAME GENERAL DRAGUL THAT WE KNEW BEFORE?
WITH THOSE LOOKS,
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO BELIEVE.
YEAH... BUT SIN IS...

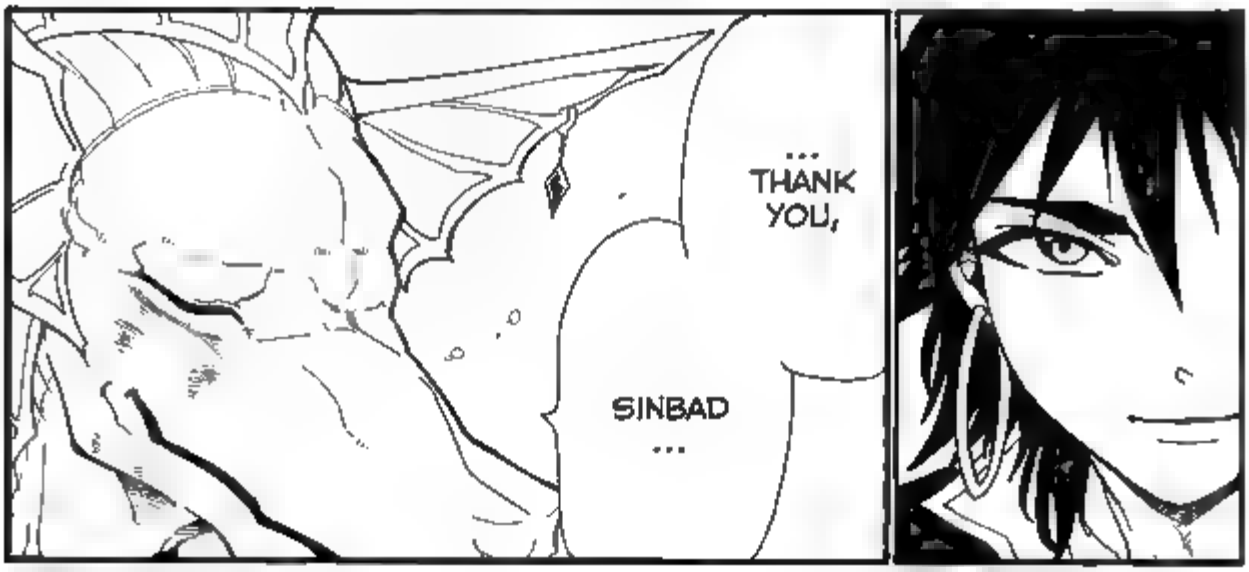
...YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT.
HUH? REALLY ?!!!

...LONG TIME NO SEE, HUH, DRAKON?
YOU SURE HAVE CHANGED A LOT, HAVEN'T YOU?

...DRAGUL.

IT'S ALL RIGHT .. I'VE SENT AWAY ANYONE WHO ISN'T NECESSARY TO OUR CONVERSATION.


I'VE BECOME A MUCH MORE HANDSOME MAN THAN BACK WHEN I WAS JUST A KID, RIGHT?! ESPECIALLY HERE, AND HERE! RIGHT?!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M SAYING HASN'T CHANGED ABOUT YOU...
See see?
THAT'S SO COLD.



I HAVE NOTHING TO DISCUSS WITH A MAN LIKE HIM.

INSTEAD, THAT MAN... ACTED ON HIS OWN SELFISH DESIRES, WIELDING THAT POWER ONLY FOR HIMSELF.
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!
SO NOW, HE'S BECOME A SUCCESS IN REIM AND IS LIVING LIKE THIS...?

AND PRESENTED THE POWER OF THE DJINN TO THE EMPEROR,
IF HE HAD PLEDGED HIS LOYALTY TO THE EMPIRE,
THEN THE EMPIRE NEVER WOULD HAVE FALLEN INTO THE HANDS OF BARBAROSSA AND WOULD STILL BE HEADED FOR A GLORIOUS FUTURE ...

PRINCESS, PLEASE STOP. SINBAD ISN'T THAT TYPE OF...
SHUT UP!

YOU'RE A CRIMINAL!
WHAT YOU DID... ABANDONING YOUR COUNTRY, BETRAYING THE EMPIRE, SPREADING THE THREAT OF THE DJINN'S POWER ACROSS THE WORLD...
IT ALL TURNED OUT THIS WAY BECAUSE OF YOU, SINBAD!

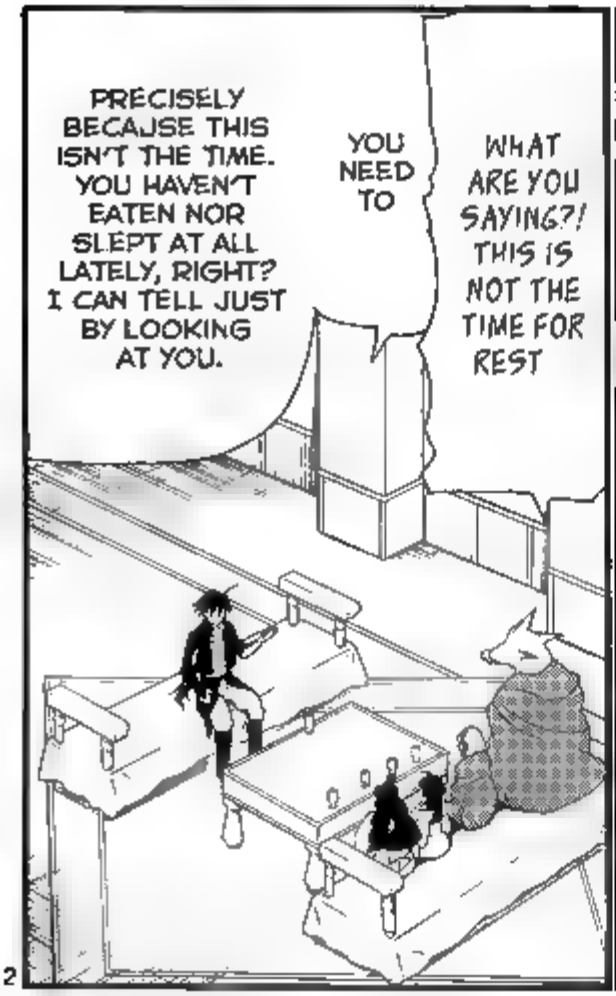
DRAGUL ...IF YOU ALLY WITH HIM... THEN YOU ARE MY ENEMY AS WELL!
... PRIN-CESS.
ぐぐ...
だらん
PLEASE EXCUSE THEM, SINBAD.
BOTH OF THEM ARE EXHAUSTED FROM OUR TRIP, BOTH IN MIND AND BODY.
PLEASE ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN ...

THEN, SERENDINE'S FORMER ATTENDANT, SAHEL, BEGAN TO TELL SINBAD...
ALTHOUGH ...I'M NOT SURE WHERE TO START...
WHY THEY HAD BEEN DRIVEN OUT OF PARTHEVIA... FROM BEGINNING TO END.

THE PRE-MEDITATED MURDER OF PARTHEVIA'S EMPEROR
A COUP D'ETAT BY GENERAL BARBAROSSA
ONE OF THE FOUR CHOSEN GENERALS WHO CAN USE A METAL VESSEL .
I UNDERSTAND YOUR STORY. AFTER THAT, YOU ...

KILLING THE EMPEROR TO WHOM HE PLEDGED HIS ALLEGIANCE AND DEDICATED HIS LIFE...THAT'S BLASPHEMY TOWARDS OUR VERY COUNTRY. A COUP D'ETAT... CALLING IT SOMETHING SO CONVENIENT IS...
BARBAROSSA MURDERED MY FATHER ... MURDERED THE EMPEROR.

YOU CAN'T JUST SUM IT UP IN THAT ONE LITTLE WORD.
COUP D'ETAT?
YES... AFTER THAT, WE FLED THE COUNTRY TO SEEK ASYLUM ABROAD...


PRECISELY BECAUSE THIS ISN'T THE TIME. YOU HAVEN'T EATEN NOR SLEPT AT ALL LATELY, RIGHT? I CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT YOU.
YOU NEED TO
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! THIS IS NOT THE TIME FOR REST

SHOULD GET SOME REST.
...YOU GUYS

DRAGUL ...I STILL HAVEN'T GIVEN MY CONSENT! THIS MAN IS !
PRINCESS SERENDINE, NOW'S NOT THE TIME...

YOU'VE CHANGED SO MUCH SINCE I LAST SAW YOU. I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE WHAT TERRIBLE THINGS YOU MUST HAVE BEEN THROUGH.

JUST LOOK AT YOUR EXHAUSTED FACES, SCRAWNY AND LIFELESS.

YOU'RE JUST PLANNING TO RUN AWAY, AREN'T YOU, SINBAD?!

!

IF THERE'S MORE TO EXPLAIN TO ME, IT CAN WAIT.

MY LADY, IF YOU REALLY ARE SOMEONE CAPABLE OF RULING OVER OTHERS, THEN YOU SHOULD TAKE A MINUTE TO THINK ABOUT THOSE SUPPORTING YOU.

I SUGGESTED THAT YOU REST BECAUSE I FEEL IT'S NECESSARY BASED ON MY OWN JUDGMENT.

!!

BE QUIET!

I'M IN CHARGE HERE!

THIS IS SINDRIA TRADING COMPANY, KNOWN BY EVERYONE HERE IN NAPOLIA.

DON'T WORRY.

I GUARANTEE YOU WILL BE SAFE HERE, SO GET SOME SLEEP.
SIN
THEY'VE ALL BATHED AND EATEN THEIR FILL. IT SEEMS LIKE THEY'VE ALL RETIRED TO THEIR ROOMS FOR THE NIGHT.
ACCORDING TO THE GIRLS, THEY PRACTICALLY PASSED OUT BEFORE THEIR HEADS HIT THE PILLOWS ...
THEY MUST HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY EXHAUSTED ...
...I SEE.

BUT, THAT WAS A RARE SIGHT, WASN'T IT? TO HEAR YOU ADMONISH THEM LIKE THAT... IS THERE SOMETHING WORRYING YOU?

WELL... I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.

WELL, THAT PRINCESS GOT HERSELF ALL WORKED UP. IF I DIDN'T SAY SOMETHING, SHE WOULDN'T HAVE UNDERSTOOD.

...REALLY?

...NOT REALLY? I JUST SAID WHAT I WAS THINKING.

THIS LATE AT NIGHT? ...COME IN.

?

EXCUSE ME. I'VE BROUGHT ONE OF OUR GUESTS TO SEE YOU.

SAHEL!

SINBAD, I'M SORRY THAT PRINCESS SERENDINE WAS SO RUDE TO YOU EARLIER...

EVEN THOUGH THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, YOU HAVE SHOWN US SUCH COMPASSION. I'M VERY GRATEFUL.

THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT... PLEASE GO GET SOME REST...

ペコリ

NO.

ONCE YOU UNDERSTAND THE ENTIRE SITUATION, I WANT YOU TO FORM YOUR OWN JUDGMENTS. I'M TELLING YOU THIS AS YOUR ELDER... AND AS MY ATONEMENT FOR BEING ABLE TO DO NOTHING FOR EITHER PRINCESS SERENDINE OR LORD DRAGUL...

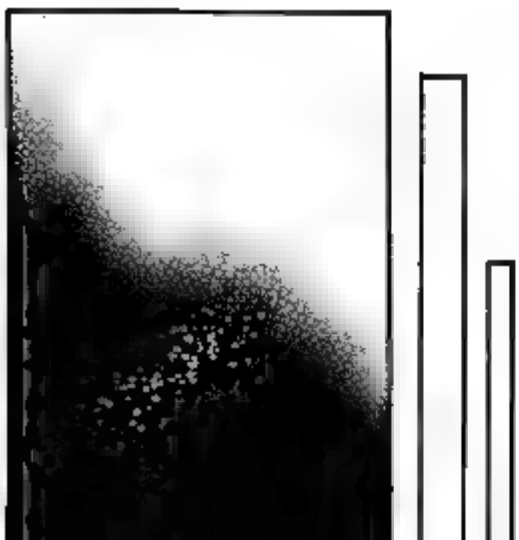
BY HIDING US HERE, YOU MIGHT GET DRAGGED INTO ALL THIS ...

ABOUT OUR CONVERSATION EARLIER ... WHAT HAPPENED TO US WHEN WE LEFT THE IMPERIAL CITY... AND HOW WE CAME TO BE IN THIS SITUATION... I STILL HAVEN'T TOLD YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND ... HOW SORROWFUL OUR LIFE ON THE RUN HAS BEEN.

AND THE HEARTBREAK OF LORD DRAGUL'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

SOMEHOW... I WANT YOU TO FORGIVE PRINCESS SERENDINE.



5 Days After Fleeing the Imperial City
TSK.. THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM!
PRINCESS! BE CAREFUL!
ハアハア

DIE!

...I WON'T LET A SINGLE ONE OF YOU BASTARDS...
LIVE...
I WILL DESTROY YOU!

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ガサ・ガサ
COME ON!
LET'S HURRY ON...
WE HAVE MORE AND MORE PURSUERS EVERY DAY.

IT IS THE HOMELAND OF SHAM LASH, AND WE HAVE STRONG-HOLDS ALL THROUGH-OUT THIS REGION.
THIS IS THE MOUNTAINOUS REGION OF NORTHERN PARTHEVIA...
...DON'T THINK YOU CAN ESCAPE.
WE'VE SURROUNDED YOU! HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN WITHSTAND OUR ATTACKS WHILE PROTECTING THOSE WOMEN...?
...THERE'S NO NEED TO LISTEN TO THE NONSENSE OF AN ASSASSIN.
YOU'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO DEATH, AREN'T YOU?! YOU MONSTER?!!
LET'S GO.

HEY, DRAGUL.
...WHY DON'T WE JUST QUIT.
ぐっ...
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.
WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT.
WE RUN AND WE RUN, AND STILL THEY FIND US ...
THERE'S NOWHERE FOR US TO RUN TO.
EVEN TODAY... IF YOU HADN'T BEEN HERE TO PROTECT US, WE WOULD HAVE ALREADY LOST OUR LIVES...

THERE'S NOTHING LEFT TO DO BUT GIVE UP ...RIGHT?
OUR FATE WAS DECIDED FROM THE MOMENT OF BARBAROSSA'S TREASON...
15
PLEASE! PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER! YOU'RE SERENDINE, THE FIRST PRINCESS OF THE PARTHEVIA EMPIRE!
PRIN-CESS!

IF WE CAN JUST CROSS THESE MOUNTAINS AND MAKE IT PAST THE BORDER, THEN THE ROYALS AND NOBLES OF COUNTRIES WITH DEEP TIES TO PARTHEVIA WILL DEFINITELY PROTECT YOU!
YOU, AS WELL AS YOUR CAPTURED YOUNGER BROTHER, ARE THE ONLY REMAINING MEMBERS OF THE LEGITIMATE ROYAL BLOODLINE... NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, YOU ARE SOMEONE THAT MUST LIVE ON!
WE MUST ENDURE THIS UNTIL THEN! WE'LL NEVER GIVE UP!
...
DRAGUL
I'M SORRY... YOU'RE RIGHT.
WE'LL KEEP GOING
YES, MA'AM!
UMM ... LORD DRAGUL

...NO. FOR NOW, OUR PRIORITY IS TO KEEP MOVING FORWARD. PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
I'M NOT JUST WORRIED FOR THE PRINCESS, BUT FOR YOU, TOO...
NONE OF US ARE AT OUR BEST, SO COULDN'T WE TAKE A SHORT REST?
WE'VE BEEN SPENDING EVERYDAY FIGHTING WITHOUT TIME FOR FOOD OR WATER, RECENTLY.
WE FLED THE IMPERIAL CITY AND HEADED FOR THE BORDER ON FOOT.
IN ORDER TO AVOID BARRIERS, THE ONLY PATH WE COULD TAKE WAS NORTH THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS.
WE CLIMBED UNFAMILIAR MOUNTAIN ROADS, WITHOUT STOPPING FOR FOOD AND WATER, RELENTLESSLY PURSUED BY OUR ENEMIES.
LORD DRAGUL'S WORDS WEIGHED ON ME AS IF THEY APPLIED TO ME AS WELL.

...WHAT IS THIS?!
THEN, JUST AS WE WERE ABOUT TO REACH THE BORDER...

ギオオ!!

KILL... KILL... ELIMINATE EVERYONE IN THE WAY...
ALL OBSTACLES IN OUR PATH... ARE MY ENEMY!

HEH HEH HEH
ビキャビキャ
!

TH... THIS IS...
A TRUE MONSTER
4

.....
ARE YOU REALLY ... DRAGUL ?
ARE YOU ...

...AH
DRAG ...

THE PRIN-CESS ...
I'LL KILL ANYONE THAT MIGHT HURT
がしっ
LORD DRAGUL!
LORD DRAGUL! COMPOSE YOURSELF!
.....

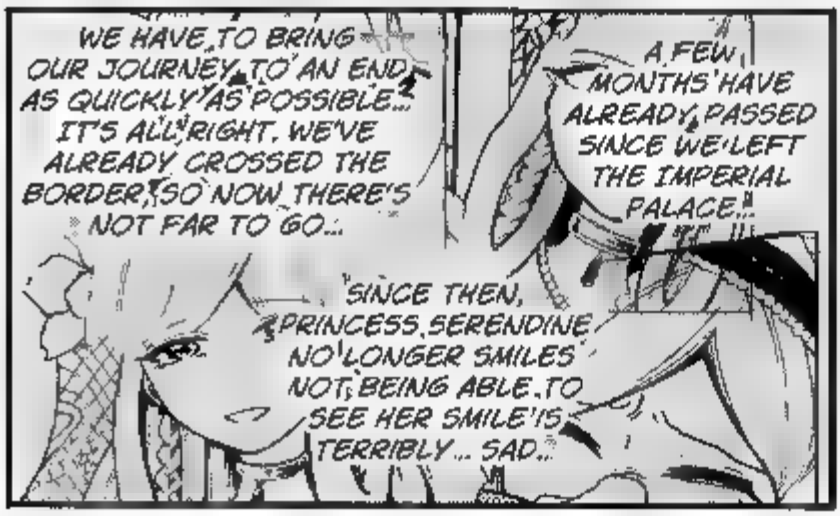
KILL ...
KILL EVERY-THING.

WH... WHAT WAS I DOING ...?
とさっ
UGH!
PRINCESS, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ...?
YOU MON-STER!
STAY AWAY!

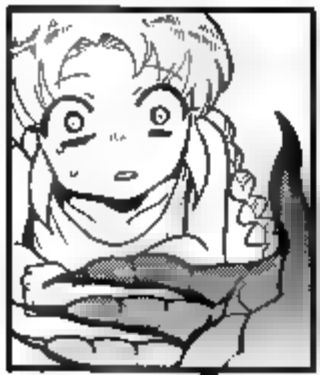
ガキガキ…
FORGIVE ME
THAT'S NOT TRUE
!!
TH THAT'S NOT TRUE IT'S
I… DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT…

THAT'S NOT TRUE DRAGUL …

PRINCESS, WE HAVE CROSSED THE BORDER.
HOWEVER, WE STILL AREN'T IN A COUNTRY WHERE WE CAN RELAX. LET'S HEAD FOR THE PORT AND CATCH A SHIP HEADED FOR ANOTHER COUNTRY.
WE'RE IN REIM NOW. OUR PURSUERS FROM PARTHEVIA CAN'T JUST CARELESSLY CHASE AFTER US NOW.
...YEAH. STAYING LONG IS POINTLESS. LET'S MOVE ON.
THIS KIND OF TRIP... IS BEST IF we JUST GET IT OVER WITH.
.....


WE HAVE TO BRING OUR JOURNEY TO AN END AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE... IT'S ALL RIGHT. WE'VE ALREADY CROSSED THE BORDER, SO NOW THERE'S NOT FAR TO GO...
A FEW MONTHS HAVE ALREADY PASSED SINCE WE LEFT THE IMPERIAL PALACE...
SINCE THEN, PRINCESS SERENDINE NO LONGER SMILES NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE HER SMILE IS TERRIBLY... SAD...

JUST LOOKING AT THE HAPPY FACES OF THESE CHILDREN, I CAN FEEL THE DIFFENCES...
IT'S STRANGE... REIM IS ALSO FACING TIMES OF WAR... YET IT SEEMS SO PEACEFUL.



ARE YOU OKAY? CAN YOU STAND?
SHALL I GIVE YOU A HAND ..?

SIS !
KYA!

WAAAAAAAH!

NO! I'M HUMAN! I DON'T WISH TO CAUSE YOU ANY HARM...

ガ!!

ガガ!!

M... MONSTER! STAY AWAY FROM MY SISTER!!

すっ

!?

ゴッ

I'M NOT SCARED OF YOU... I'LL PROTECT MY SISTER!

Y YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND I JUST

WE HAVE TO HURRY UP AND GET THE POLICE TO CHASE IT OUT OF HERE ...N ...NO, JUST CHASING IT OUT ISN'T ENOUGH...

I IF IT'S ATTACKING OUR CHILDREN

JUST LOOK AT THOSE CLAWS AND FANGS! IT'S DEFINITELY SOME KIND OF FEROCIOUS DEMON!

HAVING A MONSTER TURN UP IN A BORDER TOWN LIKE THIS...

GET AWAY FROM THOSE CHILDREN!

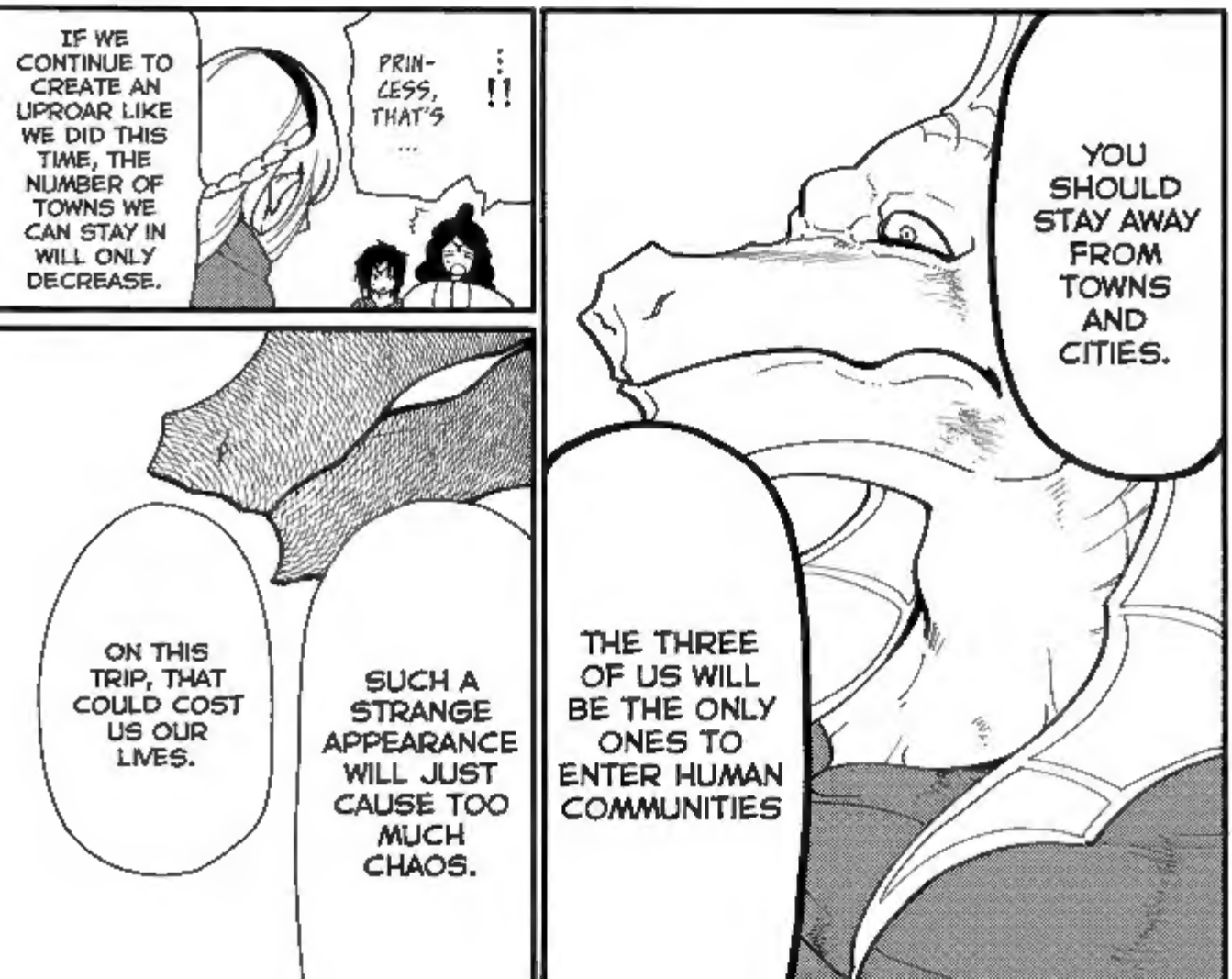
MON-STER!

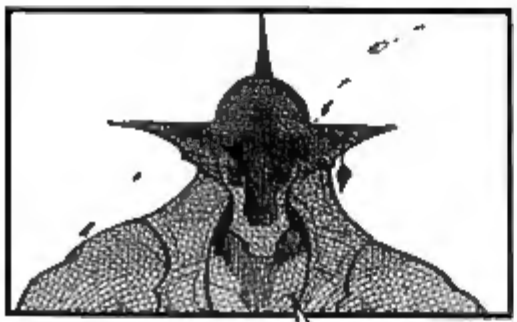
ざわ ざわっ

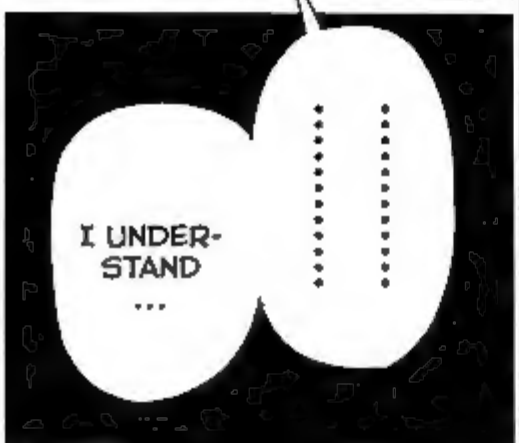
KILL IT!
THE MON-STER!
KILL
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

I'M SORRY... I'VE BEEN COMPLETELY CARELESS...
WE WERE TOO RECKLESS ...WE WON'T BE ABLE TO GO BACK TO THAT TOWN.

DRAGUL, YOU STAND OUT TOO MUCH. IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO CONVINCE ANYONE BESIDES US THAT YOU'RE HUMAN.
...YES.
SAHEL, THAT'S NO GOOD.
WE CAN'T HIDE YOUR APPEARANCE WITH JUST A HOOD ... WE WILL HAVE TO BE MORE CAUTIOUS...


IF WE CONTINUE TO CREATE AN UPROAR LIKE WE DID THIS TIME, THE NUMBER OF TOWNS WE CAN STAY IN WILL ONLY DECREASE.
PRINCESS, THAT'S ...
!!
ON THIS TRIP, THAT COULD COST US OUR LIVES.
SUCH A STRANGE APPEARANCE WILL JUST CAUSE TOO MUCH CHAOS.
YOU SHOULD STAY AWAY FROM TOWNS AND CITIES.
THE THREE OF US WILL BE THE ONLY ONES TO ENTER HUMAN COMMUNITIES




I UNDER-STAND ...

YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I MEAN, DON'T YOU?
DRAGUL ...

IN ORDER TO OBTAIN MORE POWER, I CHOSE THIS PATH AND TOOK ON THIS APPEARANCE AS COMPENSATION... EVEN THOUGH I UNDERSTOOD THAT...
EVEN THOUGH I SHOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD ALL OF THAT.... THERE WAS STILL SOME SMALL PART OF MY HEART THAT HOPED IT WOULDN'T COME TO THIS, THAT EVEN WITH THIS APPEARANCE, I COULD SOMEHOW STILL PROVE I WAS HUMAN. EVEN THOUGH... I HOPED THAT.....
I SHOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD, BUT...

I... I CAN... NO LONGER... FAIL TO REALIZE THIS...
MY MEMORIES, MY FEELINGS...
EVERYTHING "HUMAN" LEFT INSIDE OF ME
BECAUSE I AM...
INSTEAD OF BEING HELPFUL, THEY'RE ONLY DESTRUCTIVE.
A "MONSTER."

LORD DRAGUL ...
I CAN NO LONGER PRETEND NOT TO SEE IT.
I AM A MONSTER.
I UNDERSTOOD IT. I RESIGNED MYSELF TO IT. I ACCEPTED IT... AT LEAST I SHOULD HAVE.